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Vol V No 144 *25 July 1979*

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MUHSIN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT PERPETRATED BY 'ISRAELI AGENTS'

JN251010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Paris, 25 July--The PLO office in Paris has announced that the assassination attempt against Zuhayr Muhsin, PLO Executive Committee member, was perpetrated by Israeli agents. Muhsin was shot in the head at 0100 today outside his flat in Cannes.

Palestinian sources have told INA that Muhsin was taken to Saint Roch Hospital in Nice. Nothing is known about his condition.

The PLO office issued a statement pointing out to French officials that this action is part of the series of assassination attempts which have been carried out in the past against Palestinian leaders in France.

PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR KFAR SAVA EXPLOSION

JN241354 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Our Palestinian fighters operating inside the occupied homeland yesterday evening detonated highly explosive charges along the main street of the Kfar Sava settlement south of the city of Herzliyya. The explosion resulted in wounding an unspecified number of enemy personnel, who were evacuated by ambulances. Stores near the scene were damaged as well.

Following the incident occupation forces sealed off the area and searched for other charges that did not go off. They arrested 17 Palestinian citizens on the pretext that they were linked to the operation.

PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR TEL AVIV EXPLOSION

JN241409 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] A group of our fighters have placed highly explosive timed bombs inside the main condenser of the central electricity network in the northern area of Tel Aviv.

The bombs went off yesterday evening and were heard all over the northern region. Enemy losses amounted to:
1. The main condenser of the network, which supplies the northern part of Tel Aviv, was heavily damanged.
2. Current supplies to a number of areas in Tel Aviv were cut off.
3. Two workers at the site were injured.

The enemy radio confirmed the operation in its Hebrew broadcast at 2200 the same night. The radio said that the explosion took place inside the network at 2130. It added that the cause of the explosion and those who were behind it were not known.

PALESTINIAN SOURCE REITERATES STRONG TIES WITH SHI'ITES

JN212001 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 21 Jul 79 JN

[Text] A responsible information source has stated the following: A suspicious radio station today broadcast a report aimed at disrupting the militant relations between the Palestinian revolution and the Al-Amal movement.

While refuting this report in part and parcel, the Palestinian revolution reiterates the strong ties binding it with the Al-Amal movement. These ties can never be overshadowed by any kind of intrigue or attempt.

The Al-Amal movement's General Secretariat has released a press statement denying the report broadcast over the suspicious radio station

The following is the text of the statement: An illegal radio station which has been reporting lies aimed at driving wedges and plotting intrigues recently broadcast a report to the effect that the Palestinian resistance executed three Muslim Shi'ites in Burj al-Barajinah on the instructions of PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The Al-Amal movement categorically denies this report and warns the citizens against believing such rumors which are part of the plot against Lebanon. The Al-Amal movement is confident that the vigilance of the sincere citizens is adequate to thwart these suspicious attempts.

BRITISH SPOKESMAN DENIES INVITING 'ARAFAT TO VISIT BRITAIN

LD241525 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 24 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT report]

[Excerpt] London--A British Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that Britain has not extended an invitation to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to visit the country, but did not rule out the possibility of extending such an invitation to 'Arafat in the future.

The spokesman was replying to a question by ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT on whether Britain intends to invite 'Arafat to visit following reports that 'Arafat has received official invitations from France, West Germany and Italy.

The spokesman said that there is no change in Britain's Middle East policy at present. He also said that he has no knowledge of West Germany, France and Italy having actually extended invitations to 'Arafat.

However, Palestinian sources in Beirut said that 'Arafat will visit a number of European capitals, including Paris, Rome, Bonn and maybe London on his way to New York to attend the General Assembly meetings.

In West Germany a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that his country has invited 'Arafat to visit as was reported by KUNA. No such denial has been issued by France and Italy.

It was announced in Paris yesterday that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, will visit Paris today at the invitation of French Foreign Minister Jean-Francois Poncet. During the visit Qaddumi will pave the way for a visit by 'Arafat.

In Beirut ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Palestinian delegations will leave for Iraq in the next few days in order to congratulate Saddam Husayn, the new Iraqi president, and to discuss Palestinian affairs with him.

PNC MEMBER DISCUSSES INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF PLO

LD241429 Paris LE MONDE in French 22-23 Jul 79 p 4 LD

[Jean Gueras interview with PLO National Council member 'Isam Sartawi in Paris: "Mr 'Isam Sartawi Wants France To Give the PLO Official Recognition--date not specified]

[Text] During a brief stop in Paris Mr 'Isam Sartawi explained to us the importance of the results of the Vienna meeting which he has no hesitation in describing as "historic" because, he told us, "It constitutes a form of recognition of the PLO by the Austrian Socialist Party--and hence by the Austrian Government--and by the Socialist International, as is clear from the joint communique published at the end of the meeting. In fact this document specifies that Mr Brandt will recommend to the Socialist International that it should pursue contacts with the PLO. The second result of Vienna is the conviction which Mr Brandt and Mr Kreisky now share that the PLO's official objective is the establishment of a Palestinian state over any section of the Palestinian homeland liberated from Israeli occupation--an objective which is both reasonable and in keeping with the international consensus on the Middle East. The third important result is the dispelling of the myth sustained by Israel that the creation of such a state would mean the liquidation of others. This argument has been widely used by the Israelis to oppose Palestinian national rights and make the world believe that the creation of a Palestinian state is contrary to international consensus. Mr Brandt wasquite clear on this point when he said after the Vienna talks that his talks with Mr 'Arafat firmly convinced him that the application of the Palestinians' rights to self-determination does not violate the rights of any other country. Finally, the fourth significant result was that in asserting that the Palestinian problem lies at the center of the Middle East conflict and by franting Mr 'Arafat official honors, Mr Kreisky and Mr Brandt clearly indicated that a just and permanent peace in the Middle East could only be based on a settlement of the Palestinian problem with the PLO's participation.

The U.S. Attitude Is Disappointing

[Question] Will there be any follow-up to the Vienna meeting?

[Answer] I think that the Vienna communique, by referring to the need to pursue contacts with the PLO, suggests the possibility of new measures which will lead to the Socialist International officially recognizing the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole representative. We hope that the other countries--in Europe and elsewhere--which have so far seemed reticent will follow Vienna's example. As regards France we think it has shown a great deal of courage and lucidity with respect to the Palestinian problem. We also think that France has played an important role in the progress made in West Europe's position on this problem. We hope that this trend will be strengthened and that France will follow the example of Austria and the Socialist International and will take a practical decision with regard to officially recognizing the PLO.

[Question] Some people said that the United States encouraged the Vienna meeting and even suggested that it take part.

[Answer] That is quite untrue. The Vienna meeting was the result of prolonged contacts between the PLO and Socialist International leaders. The Americans played no part in this respect. I would even say that the U.S. attitude to the PLO is extremely disappointing. Washington is maintaining its rejectionist policy with regard to the PLO, making any possible recognition dependent on unacceptable conditions.

We hope that the United States will become realistic enough to understand that without the PLO and the application of Palestinian national rights there can be no progress in the Middle East. Sooner or later the U.S. leaders will reach the conclusion that their present attitude to the PLO is harmful to them and that they should therefore modify it. We would like that change to take place as soon as possible. However we prefer to wait rather than sacrifice our principles.

[Question] Surely U.S. recognition could be speeded up if the PLO were to recognize Security Council Resolution 242?

[Answer] That is precisely one of the preconditions imposed by Washington. The PLO has already replied that it cannot accept a resolution which describes the Palestinians as refugees and denies them their national rights. However, the PLO approved the October 1977 joint Soviet-U.S. declaration (note: While recognizing the "Palestinian People's legitimate rights," the 1 October 1977 Soviet-U.S. declaration on the Middle East demanded the restitution of the "territories occupied during the 1967 conflict" exactly reproducing the wording of Security Council Resolution 242) because it feels that this recognizes the Palestinians' legitimate rights.

[Question] How do you explain the negative reactions of Mr Hawatimah and other Palestinian leaders to the Vienna meeting?

[Answer] The whole of Palestinian public opinion welcomed the Vienna meeting and considered it a diplomatic breakthrough for the PLO. The Israeli establishment, however, described it as a national disaster. The minority opposition which emerged among the Palestinians proves that democratic practice exists in Palestinian organizations. However this opposition is based on an error of judgement and of logic. An event which sowed disarray among the Israeli's should not normally worry Mr Hawatimah and other representatives of the Palestinian minority.

[Question] Do you think that the Ankara operation was aimed at neutralizing the Vienna meeting?

[Answer] I do not think so. An operation of that type requires lengthy preparations and must certainly have been organized well before the Vienna meeting.

[Question] Does the PLO approve of this type of operation?

[Answer] Certainly not. The PLO has clearly dissociated itself from this enterprise and from other similar operations. The PLO abides by a resolution passed at the 1974 Palestinian National Council meeting which clearly stipulates that its military activities will be limited to the occupied territories.

[Question] Does that mean that you are opposed to any terrorist operation against Egypt?

[Answer] The last Arab summit in Baghdad established a clear policy which provides for economic and political retaliation measures against Egypt while stressing that the implementation of these measures should not entail suffering for the Egyptian people. The PLO rigorously respects these stipulations.

[Question] But surely As-Sa'iqah, which sponsors the Revolutionary Eagles organization to which the Ankara commandos belonged, is part of the PLO?

[Answer] To my knowledge As-Sa'iqah has never sponsored this organization. Consequently the PLO cannot be held responsible for the activities of the Revolutionary Eagles, which it has firmly disowned on various occasions.

"The Right to Resistance"

[Question] Do you not think that a halt in terrorist activities against Israel could help the cause of peace?

[Answer] The right to resist occupation is universally recognized even by the United Nations. As long as the occupation continues the Palestinians will continue to exercise their legitimate right to resist. Only peace will end this resistance and the PLO has, on various occasions, affirmed its desire for peace.

Unfortunately it is Israeli intransigence which makes this peace impossible.

[Question] Can you justify terrorist operations against civilian Israeli populations?

[Answer] When the Israeli Air Force and artillery kill thousands of Palestinian refugees and Lebanese civilians, nobody thinks to condemn the immorality of these massacres. It is only the victims of occasional Palestinian bombs who are described as victims of immoral acts. Clearly this is a case of double standards. Personally I would be happy to see an end to all killings and the establishment of a just and lasting peace.

[Question] Do you not think that this peace which you are seeking could be produced by the Israeli-Egyptian agreements?

[Answer] The Washington peace treaty is based on erroneous premises and cannot lead to peace. A new path must be sought--a path capable of solving the whole Middle East crisis. This new approach to peace must be based on the application of the Palestinians' national rights and the participation of the superpowers as suggested by the October 1977 Soviet-U.S. declaration.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL DEPARTS FOR MIDEAST TOUR

LD231750 Tunis TAP in English 1435 GMT 23 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Tunis July 23 (TAP)--Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Tunis Monday morning for Beirut on the first leg of a tour that will take him to 4 Arab countries, namely Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Iraq. This tour will enable him to contack people about the major Arab problems, and consult the leaders of the countries he is to visit about the review of the pan-Arab organization's structures so as to ensure the efficiency of its action.

Chedli Klibi is accompanied by an important delegation including, notably, Arab League Assistant Secretary General As'ad al-As'ad.

Meets With Beirut Journalists

LD241454 Tunis TAP in English 1421 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, July 24 (TAP)--Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, arrived in Beirut on the first leg of a tour which will take him to Syria, Jordan and Iraq.

Answering the questions of a great number of journalists, Klibi stated that "it was natural that his first visit was devoted to the [word indistinct], especially to Lebanon which has been the theatre of many events. After wishing the normalizing of the situation in Lebanon and the restoring of the national unity, the Arab League's secretary general, answering a question relating to the Arab summit, specified that such a conference is not likely to be held without being carefully prepared.

Meets With 'Arafat

JN241824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] This afternoon brother leader Abu 'Ammar received in his Beirut office brother Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League. Our radio correspondent has learned that during this meeting, which was held in a cordial and frank atmosphere, brother leader Abu 'Ammar continued the talks begun last night by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] head of the PLO Political Department, on the political situation and developments in the Arab region, especially in southern Lebanon.

The secretary general expressed the league's readiness to exert all efforts and utilize all resources in support of the Palestine question and the PLO in all fields.

'ICATU' DENOUNCES HISTADRUT LEADER'S VISIT TO EGYPT

JN241559 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] The working class and its trade union have reaffirmed their rejection and condemnation of the traitorous Egyptian regime's capitulatory policy and called on the Arab masses in general and particularly on Arab Egypt to confront and thwart this policy.

In a press statement, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] expressed its denunciation of the Histadrut secretary general's visit to Arab Egypt at the invitation of the false union leaderships, which have betrayed all union principles and rights. ICATU added that these trade union leaderships have turned themselves into propagandist trumpets for the ruling regime in Egypt and have accordingly followed in the regime's steps by inviting prominent people to visit Cairo. ICATU stated that these trade unions have now invited the Histadrut secretary general in order to prove their allegiance to the regime and its defeatist policy.

ICATU called on the Egyptian working class to confront and overthrow the regime to maintain Egypt's Arab progressive and nationalist front, a front that was delineated by the 23 July 1952 revolution.

KUWAIT

PAPER CALLS ON CARTER TO REMOVE SECRETARY BROWN

LD250918 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0713 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Today's AL-ANBA' strongly criticizes (?U.S. policy) in the Gulf region. The paper writes that U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown must realize that his threats are bound to lead to the destruction of vital U.S. interests in the region. The paper calls on President Carter to remove Brown from U.S. politics before he involves the United States in matters which it can do without. The paper adds that Brown's threats will not intimidate the people's of the region, nor will they make them throw themselves into Uncle Sam's arms; on the contrary, they will lead to more unity and cohesion among these peoples so they can defend their independence and assert their right to exploit their own resources to suit their own interests, and not those of the Western monopolies.

The paper is surprised that Brown has escaped the purge which Carter used to remove some of his secretaries, and adds that Carter has removed those secretaries who, he thought, have harmed his personal relations with the U.S. people, but that he should have first removed the secretary who is doing harm to the relations of all the U.S. people with the Arab states, both Gulf and non-Gulf states.

PROSPECTIVE CUTS IN OIL SALES TO BP DENIED

LD241308 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1110 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Shaykh 'Ali al-Jabir al-'Zli, director of sales at the Kuwaiti Ministry of Petroleum, has denied what has been rumored about reducing Kuwait's sales of crude oil to British Petroleum by 80,000 barrels. Shaykh al-'Ali said in a press statement today that these rumors are without any foundation of truth.

SAUDI ARABIA

INTERIOR MINISTER RETURNS FROM TAIWAN, ROK

LD241058 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0955 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior, has stressed the positiveness and the success of his visit to Nationalist China and the Republic of Korea. He said that the leaders of these countries and all officials he met there had expressed their appreciation at the attitude of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia toward the Middle East problem and world issues, and their support for its viewpoint. Prince Nayif, in a statement to SNA, said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia equally occupies a very big position in these countries at official and popular levels. The interior minister returned to Riyadh last night.

AR-RIYAD COMMENTS ON IRANIAN ATTITUDE TO BAHRAIN

LD230947 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 19 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Tehran and the Gulf"]

[Excerpts] The Islamic government in Iran has affirmed its eagerness to preserve Tehran's relations with Bahrain and its concern to strengthen its independence.

This affirmation by the Iranian brothers is wise and positive. It cancels out the effect of the irresponsible statements about the regime in sisterly Bahrain, and at the same time emphasizes the spirit of Arab-Iranian Islamic cooperation. It also shows disregard for minor differences, and reflects enthusiasm toward confronting the difficulties and problems facing the Arab and Islamic worlds, worlds which are indeed one and which are always looking forward toward the achievement of greater and more comprehensive cooperation leading to greater strength and stability. By this Iranian affirmation, the Tehran government has shown its desire to thwart attempts by the Western media, which is always glad to exploit fabricated differences and irresponsible statements.

There is a greater desire today than ever before to achieve Islamic cohesiveness in the face of attempts by major powers, and to thwart their plans to sabotage the Third World countries and stand against the revival of the Islamic world that has begun to awaken in order to wrest its rights. Obviously the Gulf, including Bahrain, is not the responsibility of the Arabs alone. Rather, its security, the protection of its independence and the development of its economy is the responsibility of all the Gulf countries, which are facing common dangers, have common economic interests and shared social development, and indeed are linked by Islam in their cooperation and solidarity against those lying in wait for their wealth and future aspirations.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO NETHERLANDS--Jidda--It has been decided to appoint Shaykh Ziyad ash-Shawwaf as the kindgom's ambassador to the Netherlands. Shaykh ash-Shawwaf, who has a master's degree in political science, joined the Foreign Ministry on 19 March 1975 and worked in the kingdom's missions in Damascus, New York and Sweden. [Text] [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Jul 79 LD]

UAE

PAPER APPEALS FOR SUPPORT OF AFGHAN MUSLIMS

JN230737 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0645 GMT 23 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 23 July--In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD calls on the Islamic world to back the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan. It says: "The Islamic revolution in Afghanistan should not experience the same painful fate as that of Muslims in the Philippines, Uganda or Chad."

The paper adds: The hardships being experienced by the Muslim mujahidin in Afghanistan should be the focus of attention of the Islamic world throughout the globe. These men are risking their lives to uphold right and justice. They refuse to be governed by a regime that is pulling the country away from Islam, and that governs with ideas, philosophies and laws alien to the spirit and teachings of Islam. They also refuse to have their destiny determined outside the borders of their country, by people who are alien to their religion and beliefs, even if they act under the guise of experts and advisers. The paper continues: The best thing about the Afghan revolutionaries is that they are struggling and being martyred in silence, far from the uproar of propaganda. They are acting for nothing while crouched in the mountains, liberating their land inch by inch.

AL-ITTIHAD says: The Islamic revolution in Afghanistan needs the support of Muslims throughout the world. However, this support should reach the real mujahidin and not those who talk about the revolution and raise its slogans without experiencing the battle in the field.

PERES ARRIVES IN CAIRO, BRINGS BEGIN LETTER TO AS-SADAT

NC241020 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1005 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Israeli opposition party leader Shim'on Peres arrived at Cairo airport this morning for a 3-day visit to Egypt. Peres will meet today with President as-Sadat in Alexandria. He will also meet with the Vice president and the prime minister.

Upon his arrival at Cairo international airport, Peres was met by National Democratic Party [NDP] Secretary General Fikri Makrim 'Ubayd.

Immediately upon his arrival at Cairo airport, Shim'on Peres proceeded to Alexandria.

Prior to his departure from Tel Aviv, Shim'on Peres stated that he was carrying a personal letter from Prime Minister Menahem Begin to President Anwar as-Sadat.

Peres said that he will explain to officials in Cairo that the Labor Party, of which he is the leader, wants the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty to become a new political reality through the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, and that this treaty should mark the beginning of the phase of negotiations with the other Arab states to conclude peace treaties with them.

As-Sadat Receives Peres

NC241053 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 24 July--President Anwar as-Sadat met with Israeli opposition Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres this morning.

The meeting was attended by Mr (Iris), director for international affairs in the Israeli Labor Party, and Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, National Democratic Party [NDP] secretary in Alexandria.

The president received Mr Peres at 1130. After As-Sadat's welcoming of Mr Peres, they began their meeting.

After the meeting Mr Peres is scheduled to return to Cairo from Alexandria. Mr Peres will stay in Cairo for 3 days.

Shim'on Peres arrived in Alexandria this morning.

Press Conference

NC241400 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 24 July--President Anwar as-Sadat has stated that he held fruitful talks today with Israeli Labor Party chairman and opposition leader Shim'on Peres. He said the talks dealt with Egyptian-Israeli relations and all the upcoming steps vis-a-vis the peace process.

President as-Sadat said: I will discuss the question of the settlements with the Israeli prime minister during my upcoming visit to Haifa. I have discussed this subject with Peres and each one of us has his own view which the other knows. But inevitably a solution will be found for these matters.

President as-Sadat said that Egypt, Isreel and the United States will shortly find a solution for the question of the UN Emergency Forces [UNEF]. Egypt has agreed that the UN Truce Supervision Organization [UNTSO] supervise the implementation of the peace agreement.

President as-Sadat made these remarks at the press conference which he and Shim'on Peres held follwoing their private 2-hour talks in Alexandria today.

President as-Sadat opened the press conference with a speech in which he said: I must express my happiness at receiving my friend Shim'on Peres here. We held extensive talks that dealt with all topics on the level of the bilateral relations between us and all the matters taking place around us. Our talks were useful as far as the next steps in the peace process are concerned. I expressed to him my desire that we should resume our talks in Haifa. I take this opportunity to thank him for accepting my invitation to spend some time in Egypt. We wish him and his family in Israel all the best wishes. Thank you.

President as-Sadat then answered a question on the expiration of the UNEF mandate in Sinai. He said: Perhaps you know that Egypt has agreed that UNTSO will do this. I believe that Egypt, Israel and the United States will shortly reach an agreement on this subject, which I do not feel is a point of dispute.

President as-Sadat was then asked what was agreed upon and not agreed upon with Shim'on Peres. He said: I would like to be accurate. Mr Shim'on Peres has come here as a friend, not as a delegate of the Israeli Government. We have exchanged views--as we have become used to--on all problems.

As for our agreement or disagreement, there is, for example, the question of settlements, on which we have our own view and Mr Shim'on Peres has another; however, we know each other's viewpoint.

President as-Sadat added: During my meeting with the prime minister in Haifa, God willing, we will again discuss this matter. As you must have heard, I have differed with the prime minister, and as a matter of fact, Shim'on and I have also differed on this matter. However, as I said, a solution will inevitably be found for these matters because there is no other way.

Mr Shim'on Peres then delivered a statement in which he said: First, I would like to thank President as-Sadat for inviting me to visit this great country. We are sure that Egypt not only has a glorious past, but also a bright future. It is the largest and most important country in the Middle East. Finally, Egypt's policy has been the influential one in the Middle East since President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

Peres said that after the president's visit to Jerusalem several burdens have begun to shift and change. He added: I share President as-Sadat's optimistic view that peace will be achieved because nobody has another choice.

Peres said: In our talks we discussed the past, the present and the future, as well as other wide-ranging topics. When we meet we review the entire situation.

I have not come to negotiate because I represent the opposition, but not opposition to peace. My party fully supports all the steps that lead to peace with Egypt and ultimately with the other countries. We do not want a separate peace, becuase if peace is not comprehensive, it will be dangerous. Once again I would like to thank President as-Sadat for the warm reception and hospitality accorded me.

At the end of his statement, Shim'on Peres conveyed congratulations to the Egyptian people on the beginning of the month of Ramadan by saying in Arabic: "Kull sanah wantum tayibun."

President as-Sadat answered a question on whether changes in personnel in Israel affect the peace process. He said: When I went to Israel in 1977, I was ready to deal with anyone there who wanted peace. The entire question, as I envisaged it, was a sacred mission, and I did not ask who was there. I went there determined to undertake my initiative even if it did not produce anything, because I considered it a sacred mission.

President as-Sadat was asked whether he had given Peres a message for Mr Begin, he said yes, but in answer to another question he refused to reveal the contents of the message.

In answer to a question on the expiration of the UNEF mandate, President as-Sadat said: It is not a problem at all. My answer is that peace will be established. The problem was begun by the Soviet Union. We are ready to reach an agreement on this, and I believe we will do so.

On events in Lebanon, President as-Sadat said: I denounce what is taking place in South Lebanon. I had lengthy talks with Prime Minister Begin when he was here. Perhaps you remember that we agreed that nothing should undermine Lebanon's sovereignty.

Asked whether Peres had briefed him on his talks at the Socialist International conference, President as-Sadat said: He briefed me on his visit to Sweden and Vienna. When we meet, we review all current events.

Asked whether his talks with Peres had dealt with the possibility of other parties participating in the Middle East peace process, President as-Sadat said: I repeat that my friend Peres is not a delegate of the government and is not on an official mission. Of course, we talked about this. As I said, we talked as friends studying all aspects of the situation.

President as-Sadat was asked whether Egyptians will pay nonofficial visits to Israel similar to Peres' current visit to Egypt. He said: Certainly, there is nothing to prevent this.

In answer to a question on the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel and whether it will be possible for someone to drive from Cairo to Tel Aviv, President as-Sadat said: Let me hope that this will become possible following the completion of Israel's withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line. Relations will be normalized 1 month after the completion of this withdrawal.

AMBASSADORS AR-RAZZAQ, AL-LATIF TO HEAD AUTONOMY COMMITTEES

NC241742 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 July--MENA has learned that Ambassador Mamduh 'Ab ar-Razzaq will head the Egyptian side at the meetings of the committee discussing elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Ambassador 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif will head the Egyptian side to the meetings of the committee discussing the powers of the self-governing authority in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. A group of Foreign Ministry experts will assist the two ambassadors during the meetings of these committees, scheduled to be held in Alexandria on Sunday.

The Israeli side will be represented on these two committees by two ambassadors whose names have not yet been furnished by Israel.

These two committees will prepare a report on the elections and the powers of Palestinian self-governing authority. The report will then be submitted to the fifth round of negotiations scheduled to be held in Herzliyya on 5 and 6 August.

Thr formation of these two committees was decided upon during the fourth round of the autonomy negotiations held recently in Alexandria.

WALDHEIM NOTIFIED OF ACCEPTANCE OF TRUCE OBSERVERS IN SINAI

NC241307 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Egypt today officially notified UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that it accepts the presence of UN truce observers in Sinai in lieu of the United Nations Emergency Force [UNEF] whose mandate expires today.

AS-SADAT RECEIVES CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV

NC241841 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 July--President Anwar as-Sadat received the following congratulatory message from Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the glorious 23 July revolution:

On the occasion of the revolution of 23 July, 1952, I hereby convey my congratulations and best wishes to the friendly people of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

President as-Sadat replied with the following cable of thanks.

His Excellency President Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and chairman of the Supreme Soviet:

Thank you for your congratulations on the occasion of our anniversary of the glorious 23 July revolution, with best wishes to the friendly Soviet people.

DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS FORWARD POSITIONS IN SINAI

NC241613 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the armed forces, has stated that under peace our armed forces must maintain the highest degree of combat efficiency so that they may discharge their duty in defending the homeland and protecting peace.

Addressing a unit of 2d Field Army today, the defense minister affirmed that peace does not mean relaxation, but is an obligation which produces new and numerous burdens. Therefore, the armed forces must always remain fully ready to carry out the tasks assigned to them in the most perfect and speedy manner.

This morning Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali began a new tour of the units of the armed forces. In his tour today he inspected the forward positions of a unit east of the canal in Sinai, where the most violent battles occurred during the October War in the sector of the 2d Field Army.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS ON U.S. ARMS SHIPMENTS FOR EGYPT

LD241059 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Untitled Levon Keshishian agency report]

[Text] Washington--President Carter's administration today asked the Congress to rapidly approve the U.S. arms deal for Egypt and stressed Egypt's need to have a deterrent military strength even in peacetime, in order to insure the security of the canal, the Sudan and the Nile River.

Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Harold Saunders has asserted that the U.S. Government will shortly provide Egypt with U.S. arms. He said that these arms will include 35 Phantom F-4 fighters, destroyers, sophisticated Hawk surface-to-air missiles and armored personnel carriers.

He said that the Congress had actually taken part with the government in drawing up a list of U.S. weapons to be shipped to Egypt.

In a statement to a congressional foreign relations committee in which he urged the Congress to approve the supply of these arms to Egypt, Saunders said that the first shipment of U.S. F-4 planes will fly in the Egyptian sky on 6 October, during the military parade (official U.S. sources estimate the first shipment to consist of 16 planes).

Saunders said that the participation of these planes in the military parade would be an expression of the U.S. desire and willingness to meet Egypt's legitimate defense needs.

Saunders said that Egypt has legitimate defense needs even during a state of peace with Israel, pointing out Egypt's interest in the security of the canal, the Sudan and the Nile River. This, he added, makes it necessary for Egypt to have a deterrent military power.

Saunders explained that there are in the Middle East a number of countries heavily armed with Soviet weapons, among them some which wish to undermine the peace progress in the area and to create problems for Egypt.

Saunders affirmed that, while President Anwar as-Sadat is seeking to obtain U.S. aid to boost Egypt's military strength, he believes that economic development must be given priority in Egypt.

Saunders said that the United States will draw these planes from U.S. Army depots in order to supply them to Egypt.

It will be recalled that the U.S. Government adopted this decision after Saudi Arabia refused to finance the U.S. aircraft deal for Egypt in protest against the peace process in the area. The U.S. Government has approved a $60-million loan for Egypt to cover the cost of Egypt's purchase of U.S. planes and arms.

The Congress has previously approved the sale of 50 U.S. F-5 planes to Egypt.

AL-AKHB DISCUSSES 'ARAFAT STATEMENT ON DIALOG WITH U.S.

NC250853 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0653 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 July--In its comment, AL-AKHBAR deals with statements made by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in which he announced the PLO's readiness to hold a dialog with the United States on condition that it is preceded by Washington's expressed desire to recognize the PLO.

The paper explains that all the indications are that the United States is turning to adopting a clear attitude toward the Palestinians and that the United States is not far from the desire expressed by Yasir 'Arafat. The paper also explains that there can be no doubt that when Austrian Chancellor Kreisky extended the invitation to 'Arafat, he did so on the basis of a clear position on which Kreisky had agreed with Carter and Brezhnev during their meeting in Vienna. This is the same basis in accordance with which the European states had moved within the context of their interest in the Palestine question on the basis of a comprehensive settlement and the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to determine their own fate. Therefore, invitations have been extended to 'Arafat to visit some European states.

AL-AKHBAR notes in this respect the statement which an official of the PLO command made yesterday to the effect that Yasir 'Arafat intends to steadily continue his European contacts within the upcoming phase.

The newspaper AL-AKHBAR affirms that a European move is under way to support the parties concerned. Furthermore, there is Palestinian response to this move, because an official of the PLO command has announced that Yasir 'Arafat intends to steadily continue his European contacts.

The paper explains that this statement signifies that the Palestinians have directly begun facing up to their responsibilities toward themselves and toward their fate. This is a sound course.

Furthermore, this is the course outlined by Egypt for the Palestinians to pursue immediately upon the signing of the peace treaty and the Camp David accord. Egypt has also frequently emphasized that the Palestinians have the right to determine their own fate.

Furthermore, Egypt has warned the Palestinians against placing themselves under anyone's custodianship and against being deceived by a tendentious person with evil intentions, who is not in the least interested in the Palestinians' rights.

MUSTAFA AMIN REPORTEDLY BANNED FROM WRITING WEEKLY ARTICLE

LD241335 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau dispatch]

[Excerpt] Cairo--The Egyptian newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM appeared the day before yesterday without Mustafa Amin's weekly article "The Political Situation." Chief editor Mustafa Sunbul wrote the article instead.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that it was President Anwar as-Sadat who has asked Mustafa Amin to stop writing the weekly article and to confine himself to writing the daily "Idea" column published in AL-AKHBAR and AKHBAR AL-YAWM. This is different from the "Idea" column Mustafa Amin writes exclusively for ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT.

It has been said that President as-Sadat is of the opinion that a journalist should not write more than one article in the same paper.

AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC241930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 24 July--Egyptian Ambassador in Ankara Ahmad Kamal 'Ulama arrived in Cairo this evening. This is his first visit after the abortive attack on the embassy carried out by a group of Palestinian terrorists 2 weeks ago.

Upon his arrival, the ambassador said that he will submit a detailed report to Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil on the attack on the embassy.

CUBAN VICE PRESIDENT GARCIA ARRIVES IN AMMAN

JN241230 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Guillermo Garcia Frias, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, arrived in Amman from Damascus today on a 4-day visit to Jordan, during which he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Cuban President Fidel Castro. The message contains an invitation to his majesty to attend the nonalined conference which will be held in Havana during September.

While in Jordan, the Cuban delegation will hold talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the minister of state for foreign affairs. The talks will deal with several international issues which will be raised at the conference and the relations between the two countries.

In a statement to JNA, Garcia expressed his happiness at visiting Jordan. He wished the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity under the leadership of His Majesty King Husyan.

In another development, Hasan Ibrahim welcomed the visiting delegation--which is made up of the Cuban deputy foreign minister and a senior Foreign Ministry official--and wished it a good stay in Jordan.

The delegation was received at the Ar-Ramtha border point by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim, the Irbid governor and several officials.

Meeting with Husayn

JN241652 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] This afternoon, His Majesty King Husayn received Guillermo Garcia Frias, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, in the Royal Hashemite Court. Garcia conveyed a message to his majesty from Cuban President Fidel Castro on the issues to be discussed at the nonalined summit conference at its forthcoming meeting in Havana in September. Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court His Excellency Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim also attended the meeting.

AL-HUSS COMMENTS ON ISRAELI CAMPAIGN AGAINST UN FORCES

NC250916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli campaign against the UN Emergency Forces in southern Lebanon, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has stated the following: Both the attacks by Israel and its militias on the UN forces and its false propaganda campaign of fabrications and lies against these forces are undoubtedly directed against Lebanon and its people as much as they are directed against the United Nations and its forces in the south, because their presence in the south represents an international commitment to defend Lebanon and its people and because of their basic and effective role in insuring this protection for Lebanon. Lebanon depends on this force to defend its land and people in the south and to restore its authority over the entire area.

In conclusion, Prime Minister al-Huss said: While praising the UN forces and their repulsion of the attacks against them, we also appreciate their sincere determination to confront the difficult situation and carry out their responsibilities.

MENA REPORTS CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNIFIL, HADDAD FORCES

NC241233 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1156 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 24 July--The UNIFIL in southern Lebanon is presently in a state of confrontation with the rightist militias of Maj Sa'd Haddad. Intense tension prevails between the two sides after the militias tried to set up an armed barricade some 200 meters from a UNIFIL barricade.

A statement issued by the UNIFIL command says that yesterday a group of the Haddad militias with a tank, a truck, two jeeps and 15 armed men moved in the direction of Bayt Yahun village in the central sector of southern Lebanon, some 5 kilometers from the Lebanese-Israeli border. The group tried to set up a barricade in the UNIFIL area under control of the Irish battalion, which deployed its men to face this group and placed its reserve force on the alert. The statement says that during negotiations between the two sides, the commander of the rightist militia group notified the commander of the Irish battalion that he had ordered his command not to leave its position. The rightist group's commander notified the Irish commander that any action against his group would induce the Haddad militias to shell the whole UNIFIL-controlled area and close all the roads leading to this area. The statement explains that consequently, the Haddad forces moved two halftracks into the area, that the two sides are still facing each other at this moment, and that negotiations on various levels are underway to bring about the withdrawal of Haddad's forces from the UNIFIL-controlled area.

Beirut Radio Report

NC242217 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Text] The border militia forces [of Maj Sa'd Haddad] tonight threatened to occupy the central sector in the south while they are aware that the Irish UNIFIL forces are present there. This prompted UNIFIL Commander General Erskine to go to the sector where he met with the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] Command to study the matter and halt the advance of the militia forces toward the UNIFIL positions. He said that the situation in southern Lebanon is dangerous and complicated, adding that peace in southern Lebanon can only stem from Beirut.

LEBANESE FORCES STATEMENT ON CLASHES WITH SYRIAN FORCES

NC241328 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[24 July statement by official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] At 1105 GMT, the Syrian occupation forces suddenly opened medium and heavy weapons fire from their positions in the commercial area in As-Sayfi and Ad-Dabbas. They fired on the Lebanese forces' positions, which continued to observe the cease-fire. Several anti-aircraft shells fell near the Roman Catholic hospital in Al-Ashrafiyah. In addition to causing alarm and terror, the shelling resulted in the death of Yusuf Rimhan at 1140. The Syrian aggression was still in progress at the time this newscast was being prepared at 1200. The Lebanese Forces Command wishes to draw attention to this dangerous situation and to the urgent need to deal with it thoroughly and effectively.

ADF Statement

NC241925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[24 July statement by Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) spokesman--read by announcer]

[Text] In spite of the calm in the security situation and the general relaxation that have prevailed in Lebanon for some months now--a situation which has been bolstered by the formation of the new government--several armed militia elements have escalated the confrontations in the commercial area of Jisr Fu'ad Shihab. This road was cut off the day that the new government was formed and remains cut off up to the present, despite the efforts exerted to reopen it.

The commercial area is the scene of deliberate provocations carried out daily by the armed militias. These provocations reached a peak today at noon and during the evening, leading the ADF stationed in the area to deal with the sources of fire firmly in order to silence them and restore calm to the area.

Lebanese Forces Command Response

NC242145 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[24 July statement by spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command]

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command adds the following points to the statement it issued this afternoon:

1. The Syrian occupation forces have continued their bestial shelling of the areas of the port, the commercial area, As-Sayfi, Al-Jumayiah and At-Tabaris, using F-54 and F-38 tank guns, 82mm and 120mm mortars, 107mm rocket launchers and 23mm and 37mm antiaircraft guns, as well as recoilless guns, heavy machineguns, RPGs and various automatic weapons. At 2200, when this statement was being prepared, the preliminary results of this shelling were: A number of citizens were wounded, two houses and a number of automobiles were burned.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese Forces positions continued to adhere to the cease-fire orders.

In the morning, Lebanese patrols were compelled to divert traffic near the port in order to protect the citizens in the area.

The Syrian forces paved the way for their aggression this evening, by bringing in new reinforcements and erecting new barricades on the Martyrs Square axes.

2. The Syrian occupation forces directed shelling at some quarters in the western area including Al-Qantari, (Shif), Zuqaq al-Balat and Khandaq al-Ghamiq. By this cheap method, the Syrian occupation forces were trying to rekindle the fire of sedition among the Lebanese. The Lebanese Forces Command spokesman added that the Lebanese forces bear no responsibility for the malicious fire to which the Lebanese quarters in west Beirut have been subjected. It asks compatriots in west Beirut not to be swayed by this.

As for the Syrian Deterrent Forces Command, we wish it had not broken its silence or repeated its attempt to falsify the facts when the Lebanese in the east and west are subjected to aggression.

The statement issued by the deterrent forces this evening mentioned the security which the country has been enjoying for months, culminating in the new government. The Lebanese Forces Command spokesman concluded his statement by saying: For the sake of reminding everyone, we would like to ask: Was there security in [word indistinct] Al-'Aqurah? Was there security in Bsharri area? Was there security in Hammana? Was there security in the villages of upper Al-Matn? Was there security in the commercial area as the deterrent forces' statement claims? We must know that the presence of a single foreign soldier on Lebanese territory is in itself the opposite of security and relaxation.

AL-JUMAYYIL SETS PRINCIPLE FOR PALESTINIAN SUMMIT

NC241501 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 24 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] This morning, the Lebanese Front held a meeting at its headquarters in Dayr 'Awkar, during which it reviewed security and political developments.

After the meeting Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: There have been recurring reports about a Lebanese-Palestinian summit to be held in the future. In my opinion, this is an essential move because there are many Palestinians on Lebanese territory. The reasons for their presence and the results are well known. However, prior to convening a summit, we must ask one question from the Lebanese to the Palestinians: What will be the outcome of the armed and rowdy Palestinian presence in the south and elsewhere?

The Phalangist Leader added: I have been asking this question for years. I have also been saying that if the Palestinian presence in the south serves the Palestinian revolution and leads to the restoration of territories and the return of the Palestinian people, then we support this presence. However, as long as this matter is in itself a calamity for the Palestinians, Lebanon and the Arabs, then let the reply to my question be the starting point for any summit.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN241830 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1735 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus, 24 July--This afternoon, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Damascus from Lebanon at the head of a delegation on a visit to Syria and other Arab states that began in Lebanon. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Klibi praised Syria's stand under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad toward all our Arab nation's issues. He added: It is natural for me to visit Damascus as part of my Arab tour, especially since Syria--under Al-Asad's leadership--is playing an important role in the confrontation and is shouldering responsibilities in terms of maintaining security in Lebanon and offering continuous support to the Palestinian revolution.

Confers with Khaddam

JN242049 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, this evening received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. Present at the meeting were Arab League Assistant Secretary General As'ad al-As'ad and the director of the Arab Homeland Department at the Foreign Ministry. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the situation in the region in general and exchanged views on the role of the Arab League in serving the Arab cause.

DEFENSE MINISTER DELIVERS SPEECH AT MARITIME BASE

JN242058 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Text] On instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and the armed forces, Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and defense minister, visited one of our maritime bases in the coastal area.

The defense minister delivered a speech, which he commended by conveying to the brother fighters the greetings of President Hafiz al-Asad and his wishes for their success in performing their duty of defending the Arab nation and preserving its dignity. He then talked about the efforts exerted by U.S. imperialism and world Zionism to circumvent the results of the October liberation war and to liquidate them completely. He also talked about the capitulatory march of Egypt's Anwar as-Sadat--a march that led to linking Arab Egypt with U.S. policy and thus consecrating the Zionist occupation of the occupied Arab territories. Gen Mustafa Talas said that these conspiratorial schemes have been confronted with a solid Arab will that refused to capitulate or acquiesce. Syria was the hard nucleus of this rejection, on which the plot was shattered, he added. Talas stressed that after this rejection, the Camp David sides resorted to a new style of plotting. They found their objective in the Muslim Brotherhood, so as to carry out a series of violent crimes and assassination of honorable citizens, with the aim of influencing Syria's steadfast stand, shattering its national unity and internal front and preoccupying it from the pioneering role it is playing on the pan-Arab level along its march toward the attainment of Arab unity with fraternal Iraq.

After he had talked about the conspiratorial role of the Muslim Brotherhood and its historic link with world colonialist forces, General Talas stressed that these plots will not undermine our country's resolution under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, nor will they undermine our country's determination to continue the struggle for Arab unity, liberation of the occupied Arab territories and heroic confrontation of the colonialist schemes and agents like traitor As-Sadat.

U.S. SEEKS TO REPLACE SINAI UNEF WITH U.S. FORCES

JN241941 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Jul 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The UNEF mandate in the Sinai ends today, and the sides to the capitulatory treaty are trying to invent a new method by which they can concoct another formula for the issue which was agreed upon at Camp David. The Egyptian regime has been very good at playing the same tune ever since it started to implement the U.S.-Zionist plots. Its aim is to show that it is capable of voicing its opinions on issues related to the way by which the Camp David agreements can be implemented and that it has the power to interpret one formula or another in its own way, even if it conflicts with the Israeli viewpoint or desires.

If we follow the steps of the implementation of the Camp David accords, we will find that the Egyptian regime begins a campaign to distort the truth and delude public opinion in Arab Egypt whenever Israel and the U.S. administration ask the Egyptian ruler to do so. Accordingly, the As-Sadat political organs lead such a campaign by alleging that there are differences between Egypt and the other two sides of the defeatist treaty, which has been introduced in the region under the pseudonym of peace. However, these organs are careful not to have any word misinterpreted and to keep the solutions within the reach of the architects of U.S. policy and in accordance with Israeli conditions.

Now the sides to the treasonous treaty are fabricating an uproar on the kind and size of the forces to replace the UNEF, whose mandate expired at noon today. What are the motives behind such an uproar? One certain motive is the intent to pave the way for stationing U.S. forces to replace the UNEF positions. In order to achieve these goals the way Israel and the U.S. administration desire, a new campaign has become manifest in the form of contradictory, groundless statement about the Egyptian regime's acceptance--as if this regime had the freedom to accept or reject--of the proposal to station forces of various nationalities. Other statements say that Israel rejected this proposal since it poses a threat to Israel's security. It is strange that they are talking about peace at a time when Israeli security is the axis around which Israeli policy revolves. What security and what peace are they talking about?

The unquestionable truth is that the U.S. stand, the Egyptian ruler's acceptance of the proposal to station forces of different nationalities, Israel's rejection of such a proposal and even the threats and contradictory statements all revolve around the same motive: The presence of U.S. forces to replace the UNEF in order to consolidate existing espionage centers in the Sinai and threaten Arab security and the oilfields. The forces that the United States is training for the occupation of the oilfields are probably the same forces that will offer their services under the pseudonym of emergency forces.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID RECEIVES CUBAN VICE PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ

LD241654 Algiers APS in English 1547 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Excerpt] Algiers, 24 Jul (AFP)--Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN Party secretary general received today Mr Carlos Raphael Rodriguez, vice president of Cuban State Council and special envoy of President Fidel Castro. Mr Rodriguez handed over a message from the latter to President Chadli.

Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia andCuban ambassador to Algiers attended the audience.

SOMALIA'S PRESIDENT BARRE LEAVES AFTER 2-DAY VISIT

LD241236 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] After a 2-day visit, the president of Somalia left Algiers this morning. During his stay, Siad Barre had a series of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and visited a certain number of projects in the (?domestic and sport) field. The Somali head of state was seen off by President Chadli Bendjedid, who was accompanied by members of the Political Bureau and the government.

LIBYA

BULGARIA'S LUKANOV MAKES STATEMENT ON DEPARTURE

LD242337 Tripoli JANA in English 1810 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, July 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr Andrey Lukanov, the Bulgarian deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers left Tripoli this morning after a four-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The Bulgarian guest made a statement to our correspondent in which he praised the speedy development and giant achievements realized at all levels by the Great First of September Revolution. He also expressed his pleasure at the positive outcome of his visit affirming that the talks helped further cooperation and bilateral relations.

MAURITANIA

HEYDALLA, ABDALLAH ON WESTERN SAHARA, OAU

AB241240 Paris AFP in French 0647 GMT 24 Jul 79 AB

[Text] Nouakchott, 24 Jul (AFP)--The Mauritanian prime minister, Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Heydalla, on his return from Monrovia, has expressed the opinion that the recommendations adopted at the OAU summit agree perfectly with the position expressed by Mauritania on the question of Sahara since 10 July 1978, the date of the overthrow of President Ould Daddah.

The Mauritanian prime minister emphasized that if these recommendations are applied intelligently and quickly, they will bring about a new era in the region.

The same opinion was expressed by Mr Ahmed Ould Abdallah, Mauritanian foreign minister, during a press conference. He also added: If it is normal that we defend this position by voting for this resolution (on the Western Sahara), then we did not vote against anybody, but rather voted for ourselves.

We want to be defined in terms of ourselves and our own interest and not in terms of the interest of others.

Mr Abdallah also described the talks held in Monrovia by the Algerian president and the Mauritanian prime minister as positive. This meeting in itself constitutes a step and can only improve the relations between the two countries, he declared.

Concerning the future of consultation with Morocco, Mr Ould Abdallah said this consultation will continue with all the other countries of the region, for it is a must and should come as a matter of course. The Sahara question is not the only point of mutual interest between Morocco and Mauritania, he added. There are other fields of cooperation which we must develop. Our position was understood by everybody and following a proposal by Libya, certain countries asked for a resolution supporting Mauritania, Mr Abdallah said.

Lastly, in an editorial, the Mauritanian daily CHAAD thinks that the decisions of Monrovia on the Sahara problem constitute a beginning to the resolution of the conflict. This summit, it writes, has provided the framework and has given the right directives to insure a peaceful settlement of one of the thorny problems currently facing the continent.

MOROCCO

SOMALIA'S BARRE ARRIVES WITH 'IMPORTANT DELEGATION'

LD241238 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] At 1130 this morning, Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre arrived in Fes leading an important delegation. He was received at the airport by Maata Bouabid, prime minister and minister of justice; M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; Mohamed Nasser, minister of transportation; the secretary general of the governorate of Fes; members of the Ministry of Royal Palaces; and a number of other personalities.

Before leaving for Ifran, a formation of the Royal Armed Forces greeted his excellency the Somali president.

WESTERN SAHARA

OFFICIAL RECEIVES SANDINIST DELEGATION HEAD IN ALGIERS

LD231110 Algiers APS in English 1012 GMT 23 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 23 Jul (AFP)--Mr Sidati, minister-adviser of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) yesterday received the Sandinist National Liberation Front (SNLF)'s delegation, currently on a visit to Algeria.

Mr Sidati paid tribute to Nicaragua's people for their victory upon the bloody regime of Somoza, and at the same time, upon imperialism and reaction in the world.

Dr Ramirez, member of the Political Commission of SNLF, head of the delegation, reaffirmed SNLF's support to the Saharan people, and his sole representative the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO).

Dr Ramirez declared that SNLF is to launch the battle of reconstruction and national edification, its foreign policy will be non-aligned.

STATE DEPARTMENT CLAIM OF LATE DECISION ON UNEF REJECTED

TA241601 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 24 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The contacts between the United States and Israel regarding the UN force in Sinai continued today. In Jerusalem, U.S. proposals were awaited which would satisfy Israel's demand and would not contradict the peace treaty. So far no solution has been reached regarding the replacement of UNEF. Our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi reports:

['Abadi] Political sources in Jerusalem today rejected the claims by the State Department's spokesman that Israel's position on the replacement of UNEF by UNTSO was submitted at the last moment. The sources emphasized that Washington took for granted Israel's agreement to the U.S.-Soviet compromise and did not bother to check Jerusalem's position.

Up to now, Israel still maintains that UNEF be replaced only by an international force as promised by President Carter to the leaders of Israel and Egypt in the letter appended to the peace treaty.

Jersualem today waited for U.S. proposals which would not contradict the treaty and would satisfy Israel. The contacts continue today. However, it seems that the United States is not interested in diverting from the compromise it has reached with the Soviet Union. Washington is of the opinion that Moscow's agreement to the replacement of UNEF by UNTSO is the maximum concession to be achieved. As is known, Israel thinks that UNTSO is too small--it is composed of only 300 observers as opposed to 4,000 soldiers forming UNEF--and it is subordinate to the UN secretary general and not to the Security Council, as it had been determined.

Israel is now in a waiting position and is not submitting any compromises beyond the original decision to set up an international force.

SECURITY, FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON UNEF, AIRFIELDS

TA241705 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 24 Jul 79 TA

[Excerpts] The majority of the members of the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee supports the Israeli Government's position opposing the stationing of UN observers in the Sinai. This was said about an hour ago by chairman of the committee MK Moshe Arens. Professor Arens said this in an open talk he held with journalists at the end of a meeting the committee held with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. Our correspondent Asher Fisch brings MK Arens' statements on the issues discussed by the committee.

[Fisch] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman today reviewed various security matters for the members of the committee. He said that, in his opinion, it did not matter whether the UN force to be stationed in the Sinai was subordinate to the UN secretary general--and the same applies to the UN observer force--or to the UN Security Council. In fact, this is Israel's demand.

Other members of the committee had a different view, among them committee chairman MK Moshe Arens.

[Arens--begin recording] We should not agree to the proposals recently submitted by the U.S. representatives. The question is about a UN observers' force subordinate to Secretary General Waldheim--whom we know very well--that this force replace the UN force as stipulated in the peace treaty.

If it is impossible to set up an international force--as the U.S. President promised to try and do--then, in my opinion, the international force should be given up altogether. In that case, we should organize ourselves so that Israeli and Egyptian forces supervise the implementation of the clauses and conditions of the treaty in the field. [end recording]

Another issue discussed was the construction of airfields in the Negev. The members of the committee told the defense minister that, in their opinion, action should be taken to include Israeli companies and contractors in the building of the airfields, although the contracts with the U.S. have already been signed. MK Arens reacts on this issue:

[Arens--begin recording] I do not think there is another country in the world which possesses such a reserve of know-how and expertise as Israel. Our assessment--and we heard about it from the Americans as well--is that the 'Ezzion and Eitan airfields are the most advanced in the world and the best from a tactical point of view. These airfields were planned by Israeli elements and were built by Israeli contractors. Therefore, it is important--although an agreement has already been signed with U.S. elements giving them the main task of carrying out these jobs--that the utmost effort be exerted to exploit Israeli capability in the engineering, contractual and industrial aspects during the process of construction. [end recording]

AS-SADAT TELLS BEGIN NOT TO WORRY ABOUT SINAI SUPERVISION

TA250611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] President of Egypt Anwar as-Sadat says in a message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin that Israel has nothing to fear in regard to the problem of the UN observers in Sinai and he is sure that an arrangement will be reached regarding this matter. Neither is there any Egyptian-U.S. deal at the expense of Israel.

This message was given yesterday by President as-Sadat to the head of the Labor Party, Shim'on Peres, during their meeting in Alexandria. The details were reported by our envoy 'Amnon Nadav.

The president of Egypt also promises in the message that the normalization process will continue at full speed and Israel has no need to fear anything in connection with this issue.

Today, Mr Peres will meet in Cairo with Vice President of Egypt Husni Mubarak and with Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil. He will return to Israel tomorrow.

JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES IDEAS FOR SINAI

TA250743 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] This morning we have the crisis regarding the observers. An Israeli-Egyptian idea for a solution: At yesterday's meeting of the military committee in Abu Rudays the delegations discussed the possibility of the area remaining empty or of Israeli-Egyptian patrol teams being formed. In the meantime, preparations have begun for the evacuation of the 4,000 UNEF troops. Our military correspondent Roni Daniyel reports:

At yesterday's meeting of the military committee, a preliminary discussion was held and ideas were put forward regarding the question of what will be in the buffer zone after the evacuation of the 4,000 UN troops.

Two possibilities were raised in Abu Rudays yesterday:

1) Each side will prevent and avoid entry into the buffer zone and it will remain empty, except for the Israeli, Egyptian and U.S. early warning stations. According to this proposal, access to the early warning stations, which up to now has been under UN aegis, will continue and the sides will abide by the restrictions stipulated in the agreement without the help of the UN troops.

2) Joint Israeli-Egyptian patrols will be set up in the buffer zone along arteries on which the United Nations moved.

These two possibilities and the situation in Sinai after the evacuation of the UN troops will be an issue in the talks between Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and the Egyptian Minister of Defense General 'Ali, who will come to Israel this Sunday.

In regard to another issue discussed by the committee, the fog surrounding the UN status also had an affect on the final decision. According to the Camp David agreement, the United Nations was to have supervised the implementation of the agreement in Sinai. Up to now, the United Nations has abstained and has not been a partner to the transfer of the zones or the supervision regarding the restrictions. Israel proposed a long time ago establishing a subcommittee which would propose methods of supervision. The Egyptians rejected this and explained that it was necessary to wait and see what uld happen to the UN units. Yesterday, the Egyptians expressed their agreement to a joi supervisory committee to begin working within the next few days and to propose supervisory methods.

Further from the military committee: The Egyptians submitted their own proposal on a plan for searching for those missing on the Egyptian front. The searches will begin within the next few weeks and, according to the plan, they will be carried out in two or three places along the Suez Canal.

BURG, KHALIL AGREE ON NEXT AUTONOMY MEETING

TA241818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 24 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The working groups of Israel and Egypt, whose task is to crystallize proposals regarding the authority of the self-administration in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and the method of elections to these institutions, will meet in Alexandria on Sunday for 3 days of deliberations. This was agreed this evening in a phone call between the head of the Israeli ministerial team to the autonomy talks, Yosef Burg and the prime minister of Egypt, Mustafa Khalil. It was also agreed that the ministerial teams of both countries will meet on 5 and 6 August in Haifa in the Dan Carmel Hotel. This evening Egyptian Minister Butrus Ghali will give the Government of Israel the names of his country's representatives to the deliberations by the working teams. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer points out that at the beginning of the conversation, the prime minister of Egypt asked to send Menahem Begin his best wishes for a speedy recovery. Tomorrow the Ministerial Committee on Autonomy Affairs will meet to decide on Israel's representatives to the Alexandria talks, and our correspondent says that the Israeli representatives will also be on the level of officials.

DAYAN MAKES STATEMENT ON SINAI BEFORE DEPARTING

TA250723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan says that Israel will be prepared to discuss new U.S. ideas concerning forces in Sinai. He believes that the Americans are not now able to implement the article in the peace agreement demanding that they establish an international force in Sinai. Therefore, they have made other proposals.

Mr Dayan says that this U.S. position is in fact a violation of the peace treaty and Israel must not accept it. He does, however, support an in-depth debate on such proposals, but feels that proposals which do not appear to Israel to be reasonable should not be accepted.

The foreign minister was speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport before leaving for a visit to Holland.

WEIZMAN, MINISTERS DISAGREE ON GAZA STRIP SECURITY

TA230552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Our political correspondent has learned that Minister 'Ezer Weizman withdrew from a ministerial consultation in Jerusalem yesterday, because of disagreements over the stationing of IDF forces in the Gaza Strip after the redeployment. Our correspondent has learned that Ministers Moshe Dayan and Ari'el Sharon were sharply critical of the fact that the IDF deployment plan, as presented by the defense minister, does not include the stationing of forces in the Gaza Strip.

Our correspondent says that Minister Weizman's approach is based on the concept of stationing only the minimum of IDF forces in regions where an autonomy regime will be set up. Ministers Sharon and Dayan appealed the application of this concept to the Gaza Strip, and Defense Minister Weizman objected to discussing this matter and left the meeting.

RABIN, OTHERS DISCUSS PEACE, SETTLEMENT

TA251040 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jul 79 TA

[Text] During a symposium on settlements and security which was organized last night by the Peace Now Movement, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said that if Israel wants peace it will have no alternative but to give up a lot of territory. Dr Mati Peled, MK Me'ir Pa'il and Reserves Major Generals Aharon Yariv and Yosef Geva' also appeared at the symposium. All of them expressed different positions about settlements and security. Here is a report by Yaron Tzur:

Anyone who thinks that Israel will not be forced to give up territories in return for peace is mistaken, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said. Israel will have to return a lot of territory in return for peace. The guidelines for the achievement of peace are security needs and a Jewish state. Rabin does not believe that a Jewish state can exist with some 2 million Arabs within it. Thirdly, without a solution to the Palestinian problem there will be no comprehensive peace.

[Rabin--begin recording] My starting point is a solution to the Palestinian problem within the framework of the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian state east of Israel which includes appreciable densely populated areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. That is not all. [end recording]

[Tzur] Reserves Maj Gen Aharon Yariv said there was room for settlement for security purposes in Judaea and Samaria and settlement could be of great value even during peace negotiations. Here, Major General Yariv recalled the Allon plan:

[Yariv--begin recording] In regard to the West Bank, the Jordan River and what is called the Allon plan or any similar plan--this is not a castle in Spain. More than one statement from reliable sources and from people in authority has been heard to the effect that this is not something unreasonable. I have no doubt that existing, serious settlement in this area can also strengthen our struggle over such a border. [end recording]

[Tzur] MK Me'ir Pa'il completely negates settlement and footholds in Judaea and Samaria for security reasons. Settlements are not being established today for security reasons but for political ones.

[Pa'il--begin recording] In my opinion, one of the gravest aspects of all our settlement activity is that over the last few years we have found ourselves taking the fundamental concept of Zionism, that of settlement, and explaining it with reasons from the minor league of security. [end recording]

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER BRITISH TANK SALES TO JORDAN

TA241030 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Jul 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Ze'ev Schiff]

[Excerpt] Israel expressed concern to Britain about the latter's intention to sell 275 new Chieftain tanks to Jordan for the purpose of equipping a Jordanian armored division which may be used on the eastern front against Israel. The British-Jordanian negotiations have now reached an advanced stage.

The tanks in question are Chieftains of a more advanced type--("Shear"). In the past, similar tanks were sold to Iran. The Chieftain tank has a 120 mm gun and is well-known for its up-to-date fire control system. The new type also has an improved engine.

The Chieftain is regarded as one of the best tanks in Western armies, even though in some areas it apparently fails to match the new Soviet T-72 tank.

Israel emphasized that the sale of up-to-date tanks of this type is liable to entice Husayn--in the event of war--to venture a military attack against Israel within the framework of the eastern front, the development of which is being attempted. The procurement of such tanks by the Jordanian Army will clearly increase its power, thereby increasing the danger to Israel from the eastern border.

In turn, this will no doubt affect Israel's position regarding a stronger IDF deployment on the Jordanian frontier even after the autonomy is established.

TURKEY CLOSES AIRSPACE TO EL AL PLANES

TA211920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Jul 79 TA

[Text] This evening Turkey forbade El Al planes to use its airspace and the planes were forced to change the route from Europe to Israel. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports it is not clear whether the ban pertains to Israeli aircraft only. No explanation for this step has been given.

BAZARGAN ADDRESSES GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ON STATE OF REVOLUTION

LD242152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1726 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Speech by Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of Iran, before the seminar of administrative organizations in Tehran on 24 July--recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. After expressing my thanks to God Almighty and thanking my dear friends and revered colleagues who have accepted our invitation, I am very glad and proud that this meeting has taken place and that I have been able to attend it and take part in it. My happiness is mainly because I am present at this friendly gathering, which is almost a family affair. I hope this feeling is mutual. This feeling of belonging to the same family and the same group is also accompanied by a felling that all of us share the same problems and have mutual feelings. As Baba Taher Oryan [a Persian poet] said: Let all of us with broken hearts join together, for only a person whose heart has been broken understands one who has a broken heart.

You and we--by we, I mean the Council of Ministers and those who after the revolution and after the appointments made by the precious leader of the revolution came and occupied high positions, on the one hand and, on the other hand, all the employees of the government--have found ourselves in a similar situation--that is, due to the people's habit of being antigovernment, we became the object of dislike and even of criticism and complaints. It has become fashionable for those, who wish to prove themselves as radicals, revolutionaries or people who care about the nation to say that the government does nothing and that the government is useless.

Criticism of the government has become a prerequisite for becoming a revolutionary, a struggler and for being on the right side. It does not matter who is objecting or criticizing, for there are many such people among various classes. According to their definition, anything beneficial that has been accomplished is attributed to others, but the government is held responsible for every setback, every fault and every shortcoming or any work or responsibility that is still to be carried out. People keep saying: Why has this been done and why has that been neglected?

This is a common experience for us. Of course, we have no objections since this is quite natural. As I have said in my television messages, due to a dictatorial monarchy for 2,500 years and the attitude the government and the government employees had--that is, that they were in power primarily to rob, plunder and confiscate people's wealth; during these 2,500 years, Iranians have developed a feeling, a habit and an idea about the government and government employees who were called by various names throughout the centuries. This habit will not be broken easily; it requires a great deal of work. In recent days, the people could see the same behavior in the government. There was a feeling of separation, hostility and hatred between the government and the people. They experienced oppression, force and harm form the government. The police were probably the most hated members of the government. At the time of Reza Shah, the police oppressed the people, hurt them and begged from them. It was insult upon injury. Of course, at the time of Mohammad Reza Shah, this situation improved a great deal. There was great progress. The practice of begging and demanding money from people had been greatly reduced. In addition, the police behaved in a polite and humane manner, particularly the traffic police. The police showed great cruelty, harshness and severity only when they confronted people on political matters and during clashes.

Nevertheless, the same police who experienced the greatest hatred and separation from the people during Reza Shah's reign were accepted by the people when they belonged to a popular government, even if it was a popular government in name and appearance only.

I remember very well when Dr Mossadeq and I were walking with a number of people--I believe my brother was also among us--we saw a policeman. One of the persons with us said: I don't know why, but I like this policeman. These days I like the police. I feel like embracing them because they are the guards of Mossadeq and the national government. The hatred and animosity toward the police has completely disappeared.

At present it can be like this, and it should be like this. The people should feel that the government and the government employees--from policeman, members of the army and court judges to those who work in nonmilitary and nonoppressive organizations, such as employees in the Department of Agriculture or the municipality--are their friends. This feeling should emerge and I am confident that it will.

The masses, especially those who are in the forefront of the revolution and are carrying the banner of struggle, ask us: Why don't you act in a revolutionary way, why don't you arrest, why don't you beat up, why don't you kill, why don't you nationalize, and why don't you take and confiscate? They ask for harsh, extreme actions to satisfy the feeling of hatred and revenge they have toward the officials and collaborators of the former regime or regimes. This is what they want from the government. They very seldom pay any attention to the operation of the country. They only become conscious of the question of running the country when something goes wrong, when there is widespread unemployment, when prices are high or when there is something wrong with the school examinations. On such occasions, they protest, demonstrate, participate in sit-ins, oppose and criticize. However, they pay much less attention to the administration of the country or to any positive actions to make use of the administration.

What we are about to discuss today, what we have invited you for and have given you trouble [as heard], this is not something which would have great popularity or value in the society under the present conditions. This is one of the behind-the-scenes actions--not in the sense that we are going to do something secret or evil--but in the sense that these actions are necessary in order to continue our progress. The most important work involves the preparations that are made behind the scenes.

As you ladies and gentlemen know, the government and I, on behalf of all my colleagues, have always defended the government and the government employees. I have always defended them without wanting to show any special favor. The reason is that with the first step we took in performing the duties entrusted to the government, we realized that in this country there is a vast and great organization in the shape of the government establishment. We can neither throw this establishment away, nor can we ignore it or do anything without it. This organization has the ultimate responsibility for what is to be done, even though it is constantly criticized for being corrupt, useless and full of SAVAK officials and enemies.

Some people claim that the government exists to achieve the goals and aims of the former regime and that it should be ignored and discarded. But, after the first step we took, we realized, on the one hand, how vast this organization is and what enormous resources it possesses, both from the viewpoint of its abstract resources in the form of the personnel as well as its material resources in the form of equipment and material resources.

At the same time, those who are in the forefront of the struggle claim that they feel indifference, if not hostility, toward the government and yet they keep insisting that we nationalize the industry. Some people who have contacted me through various letters, telegrams or telephone calls have even insisted that the documents registration offices should also be nationalized.

Of course, I could not quite understand why the documents registration offices should be nationalized. [registration offices are normally run by members of the clergy or their associates].

Many people insist that everything should be nationalized. In the same way that calling a Negro "whitey" means he is under the control of the establishment, nationalization is tantamount to government ownership of organizations and control of them by the establishment. Even those who criticize us and do not want us to defend the government and government employees insist that we expand, enlarge and further inflate the government establishment and increase the number of government employees.

Here is an example of the effects of nationalization on the banks and the Agricultural Development Bank: I received a letter last week from Dr Izadi of the Ministry of Agriculture in which he proposed a law under which some 20 agricultural companies that were formerly in the private sector and have since been nationalized could obtain loans from the Agricultural Development Bank, which can grant loans only to the private sector, and could not grant loans to the government firms.

In other words, the pressure exerted by the people and a great many classes results in a demand for everything to be government-owned. Those very people who oppose us and who do not give us any support and look at us with distrust because we are a government and the inheritors of the past, focus their attention, interest and needs on the same government apparatus.

Two or three days ago, there was some talk about certain tasks which would require the government to focus more attention on the rural areas and other deprived regions. Among the rural areas, the country's border regions are truly in a deplorable state. There are regions and places where such a state of affairs prevails, and this is why this construction jihad has been created and set in motion. Fortunately, there are volunteers who come to us and ask to go and participate in these efforts. However, this same construction crusade was created, initiated and financed by the government which continues to place facilities at its disposal. But these people say that the government has done nothing except to sabotage the construction crusade. This is the reward we get.

The Council of Government that is in power, those who have come along with us or that we have brought with us or that we have chosen from among the gentlemen present, have prompted us to say that we have made some sacrifices. [sentence as heard] But in return for all this, we see that people do not work as they should and that the speed and progress of work is extremely sluggish, particularly in areas concerning the government's relations with the people. It is natural, they say, the people [words indistinct] It has been said that the government has not replaced anyone and that only the pawns have been moved around. This sort of talk has been extremely painful for us, and in one of my speeches I complained. We then met the lofty personages [not further identified] and I later said on television: Sir, how could you say such a thing? You can see yourself how many people have been changed on all levels right down to the level of city governors in the Ministry of Interior, in the Ministry of Health and elsewhere, including Education and Training and the Foreign Ministry. How could you say this? He replied: Sir, we do not understand these remarks.

The people do not come face to face with ministers, with directors general, under secretaries of state or with governors general. The people are facing officials from the documents registration office, the head of the police station or even the police sergeant. The people are facing these minor officials and petty municipality members. We notice that these people's mentality and attitudes have not changed at all.

This is what we are facing. Therefore, necessity has dictated that this become one of our primary tasks--let them call this a revolutionary or reformist action, it does not make any difference--that this lifeless government apparatus, of which you, ladies and gentlemen, are living members, with all its vastness should be reformed, revived, and returned to the nation. We have no other option since both from the standpoint of our numbers and from that of power and quality we have been weak and powerless to remedy this shortcoming. This should take place. This is why we should resort to the government employees themselves. Since we do not have the capability to gather all the employees of this enormous government apparatus in one place and come face to face with them, we have decided to gather you, ladies and gentlemen, who are occupying the posts of under secretaries of state, directors general, directors and other high positions, as model representatives. By inviting you, our aim was to reach all the others. We invited you to ask you what to do. We demanded this of you, the nation wants this from you and God wants it from you. Conscience demands it, humanity asks for it, and everything precious, powerful and right which you may come across in the world demands this of you. You are the children of this land and soil. Your fathers and mothers have come from this land and soil. You have regularly received your salaries--whether large or small is of no consequence--and continue to receive your salaries. Your godly, religious, moral, human--regardless of which faith or school you follow--and political duty dictates that you embark on serving the realm, on serving the revolution, on serving Islam, on serving the government and on serving the country. We ask you to guide us. You must tell us the reasons and the factors which weaken output, efficiency and cooperation.

NAVAL COMMANDER MADANI DENIES RESIGNING

LD241212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Some of the morning papers in Tehran have reported that the governor general of Khuzestan has resigned, but on being contacted, the office of the government spokesman denied the resignation of the governor general of Khuzestan and explained that retired Lieutenant General Madani, who had been appointed deputy chief of the General Staff, has been retired again. This has nothing to do with Vice Admiral Madani, commander of the navy and the governor general of Khuzestan, who said in a telephone conversation: I have not personally resigned; whenever ordered, I am ready to serve the country.

Madani Interview

LD251055 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Jul 79 pp 1,4 LD

[Eric Rouleau Ahvaz interview with Khuzestan Governor General Ahmad Madani: "The Fight Against Autonomist Movements in Iran"--date not given]

[Excerpts] Ahvaz--"Death to Madani!" Arabic graffiti denouncing the Khuzestan governor general can be seen everywhere in the provincial capital. Vice admiral Ahmad Madani--a "pure Persian" as he described himself--is not popular among the Arabs.

He admitted it sadly and added: "They could kill me at any time, but I am not afraid of them." Indeed, the governor's headquarters are protected by a handful of nonchalant pasdars (the Revolutionary Guards) and the governor's first-floor office overlooks a street swarming with people from which "it would be easy," he explained, "to throw a grenade."

The admiral went on to confirm that the situation is explosive in this province which covers 65,000 square km of land soaked in oil and where the radicalism of the workers movement is mixed, not merged, with the virulence of the Arab dissidents threatening "the very foundations of the Islamic revolution." Demonstrations, strikes, civil disobedience, attacks and assassinations have escalated since Vice Admiral Madani was appointed 3 and 1/2 months ago. The Arabs, who constitute more than half of Khuzestan's population, are demanding autonomy or secession, depending on the cause, while the activists intend to attain their objective by armed force.

The repression carried out has been unusually brutal. All Arab organizations, including cultural centers, have been banned and some of their headquarters ransacked or burned by furious crowds. According to Vice Admiral Madani, some 300 arrests were made. The governor general honestly revealed that 14 "ringleaders" were executed, and not 5 as was officially announced. "Several more death sentences will be passed by the Revolutionary Courts in the next few days," he said, before adding candidly that "many Iranians of Persian origin paid for their counterrevolutionary maneuvers with their lives; we do not intend to practice any discrimination with regard to the Arabs in this field...."

In a way Vice Admiral Madani symbolizes the fundamental ambiguity of the Iranian revolution. His two mentors are Imam Khomeyni and Dr Mossadeq, of whom equal-sized portraits hang side by side behind his Empire-style desk. For him Islam and nationalism are constant factors in the republic's unity and sovereignty. He spoke enthusiastically about Imam Khomeyni but said he is resolutely anticlerical. "I think the ulemas were wrong to enter the government. They are in danger of losing the respect and confidence the people now feel for them," he said. He is a militant supporter of women's liberation and "not only from the chador, which merely has a superficial value." He named his 1-month old daughter Azadeh (the liberated one).

Vice Admiral Madani, who was a member of the clandestine National Front under the former regime, has the courage to express his friendship for a man regarded as a "traitor" here: Mr Shahpur Bakhtiar--a leading figure in the front and the last head of government under the monarchy. "Bakhtiar is an honest, sincere and capable man, but he made serious mistakes. He should be allowed to return to Iran as an ordinary citizen."

Vice Admiral Madani originally believed he could absorb the Arabic-speaking population's irredentism by persuasion. He toured the cities and villages of Khuzestan, holding meeting after meeting and speaking in particular to tribal chiefs and peasants, advocating the "patience and tolerance" vital for carrying out the economic and social plans he was busy drawing up. However, his efforts were wasted. "The population, exploited and oppressed for decades by the shahs without even being able to complain," Vice Admiral Madani told us, "now imagines that it can obtain everything all at once..." He wanted to show the people his good intentions: Being an expert in the Iranian economy and especially in planning, he devoted the equivalent of some 500 million francs to a public works program.

"In 3 months," he told us proudly, "I have installed electricity supplies in 50 villages, and in the next 6 months 250 other built-up areas will be provided with energy. In Abadan the volume of drinking water has been doubled. It will be quadrupled before the end of this year, rising from 30,000 cubic meters to 120,000 cubic meters. Roads and about a dozen bridges are being built. Give me a few months and there will be no more unemployment in Khuzestan."

However impressive these achievements may be, is he not accused of trying to use economic means to solve a problem which is, in the final analysis, political? Are certain Arab groups in Khuzestan not demanding the right to self-determination and an autonomous entity with administrators chosen by them? Vice Admiral Madani became angry. The politician took the place of the economist: "But they do not know the real facts: The biggest problem facing me is the ignorance and naivete of the backward masses which make up the Arab population. They do not even realize that they are being manipulated by the shaykhs working for SAVAK and by foreign powers actively working against our revolutionary regime. I should not say this--because my government has advised me to keep quiet on this subject--but Iraq is arming these Arab terrorists; the shah has set up subversion centers in neighbouring countries and even in Europe, where SAVAK and CIA agents work together to cause trouble in Iran. We know that the former sovereign has allocated the equivalent of 550 million francs to these tasks. We intercept large amounts of weapons and money every day." And doesn't the USSR also have an interest in causing trouble? "Yes," Vice Admiral Madani replied, "but we have not found any signs that the Soviets are trying to undermine our regime. This is being done by SAVAKists who are pretending to be Marxists in order to insure the success of their mission."

Vice Admiral Madani continued: "I am a man of action and obstinate. I will continue my job of pacification whatever happens. The Arabs must understand that they are not the only people in Iran who were oppressed and reduced to poverty by the shah and his masters the U.S. imperialists. The Kurds, Baluchis, Azerbaijanis and Persians, like myself, were also exploited, humiliated and persecuted. The Arabs will not be given preferential treatment compared with Iran's other peoples. They must wait until the revolution triumphs and the republic is stabilized before obtaining satisfaction."

Public rumor in Tehran is naming Vice Admiral Madani, among others, as a possible candidate for the presidency of the republic. What does he think of that?

"Many of my friends are encouraging me to stand for this job which carries weighty responsibilities," he told us. "Personally, my only ambition is to hold a chair in a university again. However, should the republic's best interests demand it..."

EMBASSY IN VIENNA DENIES PERSECUTION OF FORMER SAVAK AGENTS

AU241207 Vienna VOLKSTIMME in German 24 Jul 79 p 2 AU

[VOLKSSTIMME report: "Iran: 'Khomeyni Bloodhounds' are pure invention--denial by the Iranian Embassy in Vienna"]

[Text] Vienna--The assertion made by some newspapers and the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) that "Khomeyni bloodhounds" are persecuting former SAVAK agents in Austria and the FRG on the basis of blacklists has been sharply denied by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Vienna.

An embassy dispatch says that "the Government of the Islamic Republic and the Revolutionary Committees condemn any instance of intimidation, persecution, threats and taking the law into one's own hands, and that the population is at all times called upon not to perform such acts at home or abroad.

"It must be emphasized that in the days of the revolution, when SAVAK buildings were taken over by insurgents in Iran, several documents fell into the hands of the insurgents, and with them naturally the names of SAVAK agents abroad. The Khomeyni committees, however, have nothing whatever to do with the publication of such lists. According to the government statement, no official body has ever published any such lists, thus the repetition of such news in the Austrian media is very regrettable because it does not contribute to influencing in a positive way the existing good relations between Austria and Iran." As reported by the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, the security authorities had warned adherents of the former shah's regime, as well as those of the new government, not to make any attempt to settle political or ideological differences of opinion on Austrian soil. Both groups have complied with this warning.

W. AZARBAYJAN OFFICIALS COMMENT ON KURDISH PROBLEM

LD241756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Mr Haqgu, governor general of West Azarbayjan, said in a telephone conversation with the newsbureau of radio and television in Urumiyah: The return of the displaced Kurdish villagers to their villages and compensation for their losses are among the principal conditions for discussion with the representatives of the groups who in the past few days have attacked the Sero region.

He said: The reports we have recieved indicate that a number of unidentified persons are spreading rumors concerning the arrest and punishment of some tribesmen by me. While denying these rumors, I emphasize that all efforts are directed to putting an end to existing differences, and by eliminating poisonous thoughts to preventing (?differences) between Turkish and Kurdish brothers and putting an end to oppression and the expulsion of some farmers by a few feudalists in the region. The governor general of West Azarbayjan added: Unfortunately, we have received some reports about inciting and threatening the Kurdish farmers of the region and encouraging them to take part in an unwanted war with the security forces. We strongly condemn such actions.

He said: Officials of West Azarbayjan are ready for any kind of discussion in order to restore security to the region, because the present situation will cause inconvenience to the armers and prevent them from carrying out their work. The governor general of West Azarbayjan said: It is far from just, fair or humane that a small group should cause trouble for a group that is in the majority and at this time of harvesting of agricultural products should expel the farmers from their homes and force them to take part in an unwanted war against their brothers.

The commander of the 64th Army Division in Urumiyeh said in an interview with the news-bureau of Urumiyeh center: At the moment, the road linking Band village, Mahal-Tarbor and Mergor has been closed by some aggressive armed people. He added: Following yesterday's discussions by officials with some religious personalities of Kordestan region, it was decided that by 1000 today a separate delegation of the tribal leaders would arrive in Urumiyeh for discussions; unfortunately, by noon today this delegation had not arrived in Urumiyeh. In answer to a question about what would be the decision of the 64th Division in case this delegation failed to hold discussions, he said: We will play it by ear.

Also, today two representatives of the expelled farmers from Kordestan region said in a conversation with our correspondent that they will not return to their villages until complete calm and order has been restored. They added: Through force and threats, the farmers will be led to an unwanted war with their brothers, while the Kurdish farmers condemn any kind of armed conflict and are only asking for peace and order throughout the region so that they can engage in their work and profession.

The governor general of West Azarbayjan today told the correspondent of PARS NEWS AGENCY in Urumiyeh: According to reports received from the city of Khoy, the gendarmeries company in Qotur, situated in this region, has been occupied by the Kurdish people in the region and the condition of gendarmerie posts between Qotur and Khoy is not clear due to lack of communication. According to this report, passengers travelling between Qotur and Khoy have also been held hostage.

Kurds Kill 106 in Ambush

NC250720 Paris AFP in English 0700 GMT 25 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Ankara, July 25 (AFP)--Kurdish forces killed 106 Iranian soldiers during an ambush near Nazlu, south of Shahpur in northwest Iran, the Turkish daily HURRIYET reported today. Quoting a local news agency, the paper said an Iranian government forces helicopter was shot down during the clashes, which broke out five days ago in sectors where an armoured division was in action. Fires broke out in four Kurdish villages after an Iranian Army helicopter bombardment which killed more than 100 people, the report said. It added that a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman denied reports that Turkey had authorised an Iranian Army unity to cross its territory so the unit could attack a Kurdish stronghold near Chenav.

KHOMEYNI ENVOY ADMITS FAILURE TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES IN MARIVAN

LD250900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 25 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Mr Lahuti, who with other members of a delegation has gone to Marivan on behalf of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, and on behalf of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic to resolve the problems prevailing in this city, said before leaving for Tehran: Unfortunately, after 24 hours of negotiations we have failed to reach agreement. He added: It is true that it has been agreed that after exchanging views among themselves on the proposals we have made, the parties to the conflict in Marivan would once again call upon us to resume negotiations, but in fact they would do no such thing.

He went on: Their proposals are threefold:

1. Release of 16 armed men who were arrested 2 nights ago;

2. All the Revolutionary Guards to withdraw from Marivan;

3. The guards who have sought refuge at the Marivan barracks after an attack on the Marivan Islamic guard center to be handed over to them.

Mr Lahuti said: These three demands are by no means viable, for I myself stressed with regard to the 16 people under arrest that they should not be released because, in addition to possessing 40 weapons, valuable documents have been seized from them, and one of them is a notorious SAVAK torturer.

He said: The demands we have put to them are five, as follows:

1. All those who have abandoned their homes as a result of recent misunderstandings are to return to their homes and resume their normal life;

2. All those arrested are to be released with the approval of the Marivan Islamic Revolution Council;

3. Until further notice, all native armed persons are dutybound, with the formation of a corps of the Revolutionary Guards and of the Marivan Islamic Revolution Council and with the approval of the investigating team of the Revolutionary Guard corps, to keep all their arms at home, to move about unarmed at all times, day and night, and anyone seen carrying arms is to be arrested as a counterrevolutionary;

4. The maintenance of security and protection of the city are to be the responsibility of the garrison commanded by Major Sheybani and to be carried out by the military personnel of the Marivan garrison;

5. The army is dutybound to return to the barracks as soon as the Revolutionary Guard corps has been formed on the recommendation of the Marivan Islamic Revolution Council and with the approval and backing of the investigating team of the Revolutionary Guard corps.

KHOMEYNI SEES U.S. 'AGENTS' BEHIND CROP BURNING, DISRUPTION

LD241324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Excerpts] According to a PARS report from Qom, members of the Association of Islamic Employees of the Interior Ministry have met and talked with Imam Khomeyni in Qom. The leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran made a speech at this meeting:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I feel that the remaining elements of the former regime have given up any hope of achieving their aims; that is why they have embarked on these assassination attempts. All their sabotage activities demonstrate their weakness.

The nation should advance with strength, determination and willpower. We should ask those who cause these confusions and present themselves as followers of Islam, or those supprting the interests of the people and the masses this question: If you are Islamic and Muslim, why is it that you act against the teachings of Islam? Killing a person who has promoted Islam and the teachings of Islam all his life--like the late Motahhari--or attempting to assassinate a learned man who has served [the people] all his life and from whom nobody can claim to have witnessed an act against Islam--these actions do not comply with Islamic teachings.

If you are among those who claim they support the interests of the people and the masses, we ask you if, during the 5 months since the establishment of the Islamic Republic, you have observed anything but service to the people? Then why do you commit these acts of sabotage? Why do those of you who set fire to the people's harvests and do not allow the people to cultivate the land or harvest ehrir products--and when they have collected their crops, set fire to their harvested crops--why do you call this serving the people and the masses?

We should find out in whose interests are such acts of sabotage as ruining of the harvests, preventing people from cultivating their land, preventing employees who want to work from working, and preventing factories that are ready to work from working. Then we would know that these people belong to the same group.

Regarding farming and agriculture, such acts would appear to be in the interest of the United States, which would have to burn its agricultural surplus or dump it in the sea if nobody bought it. Other countries are not the same. They are in need [of agricultural products]. Even the USSR imports goods from the United States. Therefore, the burning of harvested crops and the prevention of cultivating the land are in the interest of the United States. We suspect that those who pose as leftists and who think they are supporting the people are agents of the United States and belong to no other group. They are very likely Americans and trained by them.

You should ask them where they get the money to pay the employees without their having to work for it. Is this anything but the creation of confusion? Money should originate from labor. These people want to create chaos in the affairs of the country so that those masters can return again and line their pockets. But these people should know that the revolution has passed these stages. We have gone halfway down the road and the rest of the way will shortly be traversed.

MINISTRY OFFICIAL ON EXPULSION OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER

LD241046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Excerpt] An official in the Ministry of National Guidance, in an interview with PARS about the expulsion of New York TIMES reporter Youssef Ibrahim, said today: In order to end the activities of guilty reporters, we follow the regulations of the government of the Islamic revolution and also the international regulations governing the case. Whenever the activities of such persons are not considered satisfactory from our point of view, we can ask them to leave our country, especially because of the Islamic ethics in which we believe. We do not deem it necessary to give the reasons for such actions in the mass media.

He added: It has been said that the expulsion of a reporter will damage political relations between the countries, but this is only a false rumor and does not have anything to do with the political relations between the two countries. Even in cases of higher ranking officials and political representatives of foreign countries being expelled, the host country can terminate their mission and is not bound to provide any explanation regarding its decision.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH U.S., OTHERS

LD242115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Following the remarks by 'Ali Ardalan, minister of economic affairs and finance, concerning future economic cooperation between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States, our colleague has had an interview with Mr Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister in charge of political affairs and the government spokesman.

Our colleague asked: What is the policy on commercial deals between Iran and other countries and especially the United States, and how will you act regarding the contracts?

In reply, Mr Tabataba'i said: Iran's economic relations will be based on its economic policies, and the economic policy will be based on expanding domestic products and national industries. In domestic products and national industries, priority is to be given to agriculture, animal husbandry and related industries. Of course, other industrial complexes such as the steel industry, or electronics, or petrochemicals will be placed in the secondary level of importance and will be speedily developed.

He added: In order to provide for the needs of this sector of industries, we will have relations with foreign countries and we will base our industries on the needs for the expansion of domestic industries. In this economic policy, we see no difference between the United States and the countries of Eastern or Western Europe or others. The basis and the goals of all the contracts should be the complete economic and political independence of Iran, and they should guarantee the interests of our nation. We will study all contracts within this framework. Those contracts which are contrary to the principles mentioned above will be canceled and the contract which accord with those principles will be continued.

AMBASSADOR ON EXPANDING RELATIONS WITH PRC

LD242122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 24 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Beijing said at a meeting with the vice foreign minister of China: Iran is anxious to expand its relations with China, especially in the sphere of agriculture, and to make use of Chinese expertise in agricultural technology.

The Iranian ambassador said: Today Iran's interest and goals are in harmony with the interests and goals of all Third World countries. We do not intend to create a powerful country in the Middle East in order to safeguard the interests of other people. He added: While wishing to have independence and to create a powerful Iran, we do not wish to interfere in the affairs of other people. He added: In the past, industrial-agricultural complexes were formed which were dependent upon foreign capital and tried to serve the interest of foreign elements. However, now we are trying to provide for the needs of our country through the domestic agriculture.

At this meeting the PRC vice foreign minister expressed hope for the establishment of a powerful and prosperous Iran in the international political scene under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni. He said: Iran and China can have useful cooperation in their struggles against imperialism, Zionism and hegemonism.

INA: ARAB SOCIETY STATEMENT ON SECRET TRIALS IN ARABISTAN

JN221830 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 22 July 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 22 July--Today the Arab Cultural Society in Tehran released a statement on the secret trials in Arabistan. The statement calls on the forces of freedom and justice to intervene and expose these trials.

The statement, which was published by the evening newspaper KEYHAN, says that all freedom-loving people have been shaken by these trials of Arab youth. The statement says that whatever the crime committed by these youth, the speed of these trials and the way they are conducted are unacceptable.

The statement says that these speedy and secret trials--about which nothing has been published--give no opportunity to the accused to defend himself. These trials, the statement says, "arouse our doubts and suspicion."

The statement calls on the association of lawyers and jurists and the society for the defense of freedom and mankind to expose these trials.

NVOI COMMENTS ON KORDESTAN EVENTS, ASSURES MINORITY RIGHTS

TA241225 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 23 Jul 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "Events That Cause Concern"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Armed clashes have intensified in some parts of Kordestan, causing a number of deaths and injuries. Indications are that the outlook for ending these armed clashes and fratricide is still not clear, and this fact has rightly caused concern among our compatriots. Under the present circumstances in which the enemies of the Iranian nation are daily implementing a plot in one corner and from every side in order to eliminate the gains of the revolution and to restore the bloodthirsty pharaonic regime--as the detested regime of the shah was--the people are rightly concerned over the events in Kordestan and Azarbayjan.

Close and comprehensive consideration of the different aspects of this event makes it clear that the goal is not just the rights of this or that ethnic minority. Regardless of national and ethnic attachments, political and religious parties, associations and groups participated and made genuine self-sacrifices in the Iranian nation's revolution. There is no doubt that the expectation of the people and of all ethnic and national minorities of our country was and continues to be that, with the overthrow of the shah's bloodthirsty regime, not only freedom and the rule of justice would be established but at the same time their national rights would be secured in the [word indistinct] of the territorial integrity of our homeland, Iran. For this reason, the leaders repeatedly confirmed that they believe in maintaining the rights of ethnic and national minorities. And it is only fair to say that the first steps have been taken to meet this demand of the national and progressive forces and of the ethnic minorities.

It would undoubtedly be just if the indisputable rights of the national minorities of our country were determined and specified more clearly and explicitly so that there would be no room for exploitation by opportunists and enemies of the Iranian revolution. However, the question is now asked: Can the nonsecuring of the complete and full demands of this or that group, or of this or that national aim (?in the present circumstances) when the counterrevolution utilizes every weapon from inside and outside to liquidate the gains of the revolution, create chaos and carry out sabotage be a motive for weakening the positions of the leaders of the revolution and the Provisional Revolutionary Government or for instigating clashes and fratricide? Immediately after the overthrow of the despised regime of the former shah, we noted that the enemies of the revolution--the remnants of the former regime, SAVAKists, criminals who under the protection of that regime plundered Iran, and their masters--would not remain idle in the face of this victory of the Iranian nation. We said that these joint forces of reaction and imperialism would use every (?opportunity) and obstacle on the path of the Iranian nation in order to advance their satanic and inhuman aims. Past experience has shown that creating discord and provocation, pitting one group against another, exacerbating local and national differences and fratricide are some of the methods of reaction and imperialism.

In the history of our country, there are numerous events and incidences of this. This is an undeniable fact: Unless there are freedom, rule of law and a national government in our country, securing any of the demands of the Iranian nation, including the demand for maintaining the rights of national minorities, is not possible. Those who see themselves as faithful to the revolution and the Iranian nation should (?have a revolutionary outlook) and consider strengthening and developing freedom and the revolution. The essential should be distinguished from the nonessential, and the special historic conditions should not be overlooked. The demand for securing the national rights of ethnic minorities is a legitimate and (?lawful) demand. However, the point is this: The evil hands of the enemies of the Iranian nation and even of the enemies of the struggling and brave masses of Azarbayjan and Kordestan can be seen in the recent events in Kordestan and Azarbayjan. Evidence and documents indicate that some of the known elements of the former regime--SAVAK agents and high-ranking puppet officers of the regime--together with armed mercenary bands are making extensive preparations in the region of Kordestan and Azarbayjan.

These armed bands, the filthy agents of U.S. and British imperialism and the remnants of the former shah's regime, who for years trampled upon the fundamental rights of the Iranian nation and the oppressed masses of our homeland and who committed the gravest crimes against them, are now exacerbating differences and fratricide by penetrating into the ranks of the people of Azarbayjan and Kordestan. We must be vigilant in the face of the conspiracies of the enemies of the Iranian revolution. The revolutionary unity and the freedom which have been attained at the cost of the lives of hundreds of thousands of our homeland's crusaders and fighters must not be knowingly or unknowingly sacrificed by demands whose achievements was and continues to be absolutely impossible without freedom and revolutionary unity. We should not create the opportunity for the enemies of the revolution to create chaos and to practice fratricide. The achievement of the legitimate demands of the Iranian nation, including the demands of all the ethnic minorities, is only possible by strengthening revolutionary unity and by safeguarding the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of Iran.

AFGHANISTAN

PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES RESPOND TO TARAKI SPEECH

LD240237 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 23 Jul 79 LD

[Summary] Nur Mohammad Taraki, while receiving the noble people of Konduz and Takhar provinces today, said that after the success of the Great Sawr Revolution the people chose the correct way, which is of great pride for the future generations of Afghanistan. At the end of Taraki's speech, warm and best wishes of the people of Konduz and Takhar were conveyed to Taraki by the peoples' representatives. In their speeches they said that it was Taraki who had delivered the people from the oppression of the Nadir Daud family. They described the gains of the revolution, particularly the eight decrees, as (?competitive) to the sacred Shari'at, and said:

"The enemies of the Great Sawr Revolution, who (?in fact are committed) enemies of the people of Afghanistan, accuse our Khalqi state--God forbid--of being infidels while they themselves are infidels and exploiting faith and religion. They wish to [words indistinct] among the people of Afghanistan, while the people of Afghanistan can no more be deceived by them, worn out and [words indistinct] plots of agents of the British." These enemies of the people consider themselves Muslims, but are little aware of the principles of Islam. The (?slogans) of our Kalqi state are based on insuring food, clothing and shelter to the toilers and are based upon the traditions of Islam.

The speakers condemned hostile interference in Afghanistan from Iran and Pakistan and assured Taraki their people would never be deceived by their propaganda and would defend to the last drop of their blood the honor of their country.

PERIODICAL DISCUSSES PAKISTANI-AFGHAN RELATIONS

LD220548 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 21 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The (MATAR) periodical in issue 27, dated the 22nd of June, writes under the title "The Advice of the Jamayat Islami to the Military Government of Pakistan Have Further Aggravated the Pakistan-Afghanistan Border Situation," that ties between Pakistan and Afghanistan have become so volatile that a war between the two countries may erupt at any time. Under the government of the people's party much hope had been created for the improvement of these ties, and in the light of the policy of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto tension in these ties had decreased. But after the assumption of power by the military government in Pakistan, in a matter of less than 2 years, not only were relations aggravated further, but the gap, which had been reduced, widened.

The revolution of Afghanistan was (?effected) by the toiling and middle class of this country, the leadership of which was in the hands of the progressive revolutionaries and in its wake the monarchial and feudalistic order was eliminated. So the traitors and supporters of Pakistan, no matter what they claim, cannot deny the reality; for they are themselves Khans and represent a class that has been defeated in Afghanistan.

Furthermore, the new revolutionary state of Afghanistan, during a short period, despite facing many problems, succeeded in enducting such reforms that the democratic forces this side of the Durand for years made to dream of them and they were thus deceived. [sentence as heard]

Under the circumstances, some of the parasites and feudals are presently disgruntled with the government of Nur Mohammad Taraki. Relations should have been improved between the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan, while it is the other way round now. Why? Because the leadership in Pakistan now rests with a clique which does not even come near wisdom, but consider themselves successors of Socrates and Plato. When a truck driver is given the control of a jumbo jet, or if a monkey is given a sword, what will happen? the same that is happening in Pakistan.

Regarding the issue of Afghanistan, first of all, the error of the military scholars of Pakistan was that they did not close the mouths of Pakistani elements, those who called as mujahidin the Afghan fugitives as refugees and Afghan revels as mujahidin [as heard] The newspaper adds: For the intervention in the internal affairs of the country, the most important thing which is desired is that regular armed aggression has been taken upon it. [sentence as heard] The military government of Pakistan, which is void of understanding and wisdom, has failed in realizing the sensitivity and the objectivity of the situation.

Fugitive elements are studying poison from inside Pakistani (?soil) against the Government of Afghanistan, with which they have ambassadorial ties. Relations with them have evidently reached a very delicate point and rebellion in the name of religion has been taken up in acute form. Tribal and religious chieftains and feudals and exploiters who could not tolerate elimination of their rule [word indistinct] call infidel and create difficulties for a progressive government which has caused the elimination of sovereignty of imperialism and the government of monarchy which included members of the royal family. Further exploiting these difficulties [words indistinct] were the groups and parties who hate the name of social justice, (?championing) the cause of Islam. [sentence indistinct]

The (MATAR) newspaper wirtes it is clear that (?until) the military government of Pakistan, which is devoid of wisdom and understanding, is derving consultation [as heard] from this reactionary and prejudiced group one cannot expect [word indistinct] guidance. We are reminding our government that Afghanistan has very good friends that, in the name of God, do not eliminate Pakistan for the ruinous and hollow jihad.

Danger of War

LD220612 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 21 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Pakistan FORUM magazine, in one of its recent issues, writes that along with other factors, the danger of war with Afghanistan is also one of the obstacles which are created on the part of holding of elections in Afghanistan and against this danger an earnest struggle should be taken up. [sentence as heard] The propaganda media of the West and the reactionary publications of Pakistan, from the very beginning, tried to create a situation of war.

The Government of Pakistan refutes the claims of the Government of Afghanistan regarding involvement in subversive activities against Afghanistan, while the operation of the Afghan fugitives in areas under the control of Pakistan have become so dangerous that the inability of the government in this connection does not seem acceptable. Some of the Western sources which push Pakistan towards war admit themselves that the fugitive (?aggressors) conduct their activities from the soil of Pakistan.

In this context, the comings and goings of the Chinese delegations are also worthy of attention. After the success of the Afghan revolution, up to now three Chinese vice premiers, the commander of the air force, several ministers and other Chinese authorities have travelled to Pakistan, and Agha Shahi, too, some time ago visited China. China clearly opposes the revolution of Afghanistan, and its official publications do not even try to conceal this fact. The Beijing REVIEW some time ago published an article in which it called tyrannical the government of Nur Mohammad Taraki for suppressing the so-called Islamic revolutionaries.

China now shoulders the responsibility of American gendarme in the region and wishes to [word indistinct] for its defeat in Indo-China with Afghanistan, and to this end it subversive wishes to make use of its friendship with Pakistan. But if the situation becomes acute and Pakistan confronts (?a calamity), it will be less likely that China will provide effective aid to Pakistan. China also uses against the Afghan revolution the Pakistani Maoists, most of whom are nurtured by the CIA and Pakistani bureaucracy. They are hard at work slandering the revolution. Now, all the Pakistani political forces which seek democracy have the duty to prevent Pakistan from burning in war conflagration and earnestly struggle against all warmongering and adventurist elements, who, in order to prevent holding elections, are after triggering war with Afghanistan and not to let any excuse be created for postponement of elections.

Afghan Fugitives

LD211344 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 20 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The weekly QIADAT of Karachi in one of its recent issues writes that the chairman of the Pakhtun students federation of Sind province in a speech said all the Afghan fugitives should be brought under strict control, because their leaders are actually representatives of imperialism and colonialist powers who deceive the people that Islam is in danger. But, if the case is assessed realistically, it is clearly understood that Islam is not in danger.

Some time ago Nur Mohammad Taraki invited all the Islamic countries to send delegations to Afghanistan and see the Khalqi government's attitude towards Islam.

If we consider the leaders of the fugitives, we shall conclude that they are definitely the representatives of imperialism.

If the decrees concerning economic and social reforms issued by the Khalqi government are assessed they clearly show that they are in accordance with Islam, and there is no decree which is against Islam. These decrees are in the interests of the poor people and against those of the imperialists, their hirelings, feudals and capitalists. In the Khalqi order the exploitation of man by man has been eliminated.

But the reactionary circles in Afghanistan give the slogan of jihad against such humanistic measures, and they enjoy the support of the imperialists. The question arises: But jihad against whom? Against the poor people of Afghanistan whose present government is working for their progress.

[Name indistinct] Khan, in an interview in one of the recent issues of the weekly, referring to the revolution of Afghanistan in reply to a question, has made the following statement:

Question: What is your view about the effect of the Afghan revolution in the internal affairs of Pakistan?

Answer: We strongly condemn the position of the military government of Pakistan which has been adopted with the help of some foreign powers against Afghanistan. If the Pakistani authorities start a war against Afghanistan, I can say for sure that this will result in the disintegration of Pakistan. Reactionary forces in Pakistan have started false and baseless propaganda against Afghanistan so as not only to sabotage the revolution of Afghanistan before it is strengthened in that country, but to also prevent the people of Pakistan from a similar revolution in the country. I propose that the so-called Afghan refugees, that is the fugitives, should be returned to Afghanistan, and that our government should sign a peace treaty with the Afghan Government based on the principles of coexistence.

REPORTS DESCRIBE FIERCE FIGHTING IN PAKTIA PROVINCE

OW231939 Hong Kong AFP in English 1902 GMT 23 Jul 79 OW

[By Jean-Francois le Mounier]

[Text] Islamabad, July 23 (AFP)--Two districts of Paktia Province in southeastern Afghanistan fell to Muslim rebels recently after fierce fighting that left 400 government troops dead, according to a communique issued by the Afghan religious organization Harkat-e-Inqilab.

An informed Pakistani source said meanwhile that the Afgan Air Force had used napalm against civilians, at a refugee camp in Paktia Province, for the first time in early July. Several people were killed, and some of the wounded crossed into Pakistan for treatment, the source said.

The districts which fell to the rebels were identified in the statement printed in today's Pakistani press as Zarmil and Said Karim, located east of the provincial capital of Paktia, Gardez, which is currently surrounded and under bombardment by mujahidin rebels.

The governor of Zarmil was killed and administration of the district taken over by a rebel named Maulvi Mohammed Naeem, the communique said. "Dissidents and the populace have accepted the new administration with joy," it added.

Meanwhile, a semi-official source in Islamabad said the number of Afghan refugees in Pakistan had reached 140,000, a figure including only those refugees presenting themselves at processing centers set up by Pakistani authorities. Many others were believed to have blended into their own tribes in this country.

Each week several thousand Afghans go into exile, observers of Afghan political life noted, adding that that appeared to reflect the harshness of combat between religious forces and the Marxist revolutionary government of President Nur Mohammed Taraki.

After several setbacks last month, opponents of the regime have resumed their offensive throughout the country; notably in the Ranchir Valley, 60 kms (40 miles) north of Kabul, where the rebellion threatens to cut the strategic road linking the capital to northern Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

Reliable sources have said fierce fighting is under way at the air base of Begram, the nation's largest and the closest to Kabul.

Aside from the Muslim rebels fighting what they call the "atheist" regime of President Taraki in the name of Islam, bands of bandits have brought insecurity to the roads of the nation, especially those of the center and the north, according to a Western source in Kabul.

The brigands are frequently aided by the passivity or outright complicity of residents of villages from which they operate, the source added.

Western observers in Kabul say there is no doubt that the Soviet Union, which arms and supports the revolutionary regime, takes the chaotic situation into which the country is sliding very seriously. The number of Soviet "advisers" in Afghanistan, estimated so far at about 5,000, was recently increased with the arrival of at least 200 specialists in armored units, according to the same source.

Two months ago, the Afghan Air Force received between 20 and 30 heavily armed Soviet MI-24 helicopters, particularly well adapted to anti-guerrilla action. The 85,000 army receives new equipment at a fast rate.

The announcement Sunday by the U.S. State Department that the United States estimated that some 3,000 people had been executed without trial in Afghanistan since the revolution of April 27, 1978, did not surprise Western residents of Kabul. There have been reports for several months of numerous executions in the large Pule-Chakri prison on the outskirts of the capital.

One former prisoner said those sentenced to death had to dig their own graves before being shot and that their clothes were shared by members of the firing squad.

A 17-year-old student who spent a year in Pule-Chakri said he thought he owed his good luck in leaving the prison alive to his having been held in its "children's section."

INDIA

ALL-INDIA ANNA-DMR ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR DESAI

BK241108 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Both the Janata Party leader, Mr Morarji Desai, and the leader of the Janata-Secular--a breakaway group of the Janata Party--Mr Charan Singh, have to substantiate their claim by tomorrow that they were in a position to form a stable government. Intense political activity continued in New Delhi.

Regional and leftist parties are carrying on th ir group consultations. As already reported, the president, Mr Sanjiva Reddy has also asked these two leaders to furnish lists of their supporters in the lower by tomorrow.

The All-India Anna-DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] one of the regional parties, has decided to support the joint leadership of Mr Morarji Desai and Mr Jagjivan Ram in forming a new government. The party has 18 members in the house.

RSS Yields

BK241259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The general secretary of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh [RSS] [Hindu militant wing of the Jan Sangh Party which is supporting Morarji Desai within Janata Party], Mr Rajendra Singh, has said they are willing to consider suggestions made from certain quarters not to allow members of parliament and state legislators to take part in the day-to-day activities of the RSS. In a statement in New Delhi today, he further said that since this will need an amendment to the constitution of the RSS, this will be played before the Akhil Bhatiya Pratinidhi Sabha [All-India representative assembly], which alone can amend the [RSS] constitution. He reiterated that the RSS has no political ambition whatsoever.

Referring to the current controversy about the RSS and the dual membership, he said that it is a bogey deliberately made by some groups and individuals for promotion of their own interests.

The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, has appealed to the members who have left the party on the issue of dual membership to come back to the party fold following the assurances given by the RSS leadership. Mr Chandra Shekhar has appealed to the Congress and the CPI-M to reconsider their decision on the formation of the new government in the light of the RSS assurances.

Congress-I Position

BK241300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 Gmt 24 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I leader in the Lok Sabha, Mr C.M. Stephen, has written to the president informing him that his party is supporting Mr Charan Singh in the formation of a government under his leadership. In another letter, Mr Stephen has told the president that Mr Morarji Desai is in no way entitled to be invited or consulted to form a government.

Citing instances from the British parliamentary traditions, Mr Stephen has argued that inviting Mr Desai, who had resigned as a result of a no-confidence motion, to form a government would greate a situation--what he called--parliament versus the president.

Mr Stephen has pointed out that it was improper for the president to have ignored the suggestion made by the leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha recommending who will be able to form the government.

24 Jul Developments

BK241628 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jul 79 BK

[Text] With the 48-hour deadline set by the president for Mr Morarji Desai and Mr Charan Singh [to try forming a government] due to expire tomorrow, today's political developments have been: The All-India Anna-DMK [Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] support to Mr Morarji Desai; the Congress-I leader, Mr Stephen's, letter to the president offering his party's unconditional support to Mr Charan Singh; and the RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh] agreeing to consider disassociating MP's and MLA's from its activities.

Three leftist parties--the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], the RSP [Revolutionary Socialist Party], and the forward bloc--today decided to remain neutral: But two others--the CPI and the peasants and workers party--indicated that they would support the Janata-S-Congress combination in the formation of the new government. Earlier at a meeting, representatives of the five parties had left it to the different groups to take their own decision on the question.

The All-India-DMK decision to support the joint leadership of Mr Morarji Desai and Mr Jagjivan Ram came at a meeting of the party's MP's in the capital. The decision was announced by the leader of the party in the Lok Sabha, Mr (Bala Pachnor), in an interview with AIR's [ALL-INDIA RADIO's] correspondent.

The CPI-M expressed their opposition both to the Janata-S forming a government with the Congress-I support and the Janata Party forming a ministry dependent on Jan Sangh-RSS combination. All the leaders reiterated their earlier stand of not extending support to Mr Morarji Desai in the formation of a new government.

The Akali Dal parliamentary party has not yet taken a stand on the political situation. Their meeting is still continuing.

Election Commissioner Comments

BK241422 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The chief election commissioner, Mr S.L. Sakhdar, has said it will take 6 months to hold a midterm poll to the Lok Sabha. Speaking to UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA] in New Delhi today, he said completion of electoral rolls alone will take not less than 4 months. The existing rolls were nearly 4 years old and must be revised, he added.